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A

DESCRIPTION

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular Account of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES,	SOILS,	TOWNS,
CURIOSITIES,	FOSSILS,	PALACES,
SITUATION,	CAVERNS,	SEATS,
FIGURE,	PLANTS and MINERALS,	CORPORATIONS,
EXTENT,	AGRICULTURE,	MARKETS,
CLIMATE,	CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS,	FAIRS,
RIVERS,	CITIES,	MANUFACTURES,
LAKES,		TRADE,
MINERAL WATERS,		SIEGES,
		BATTLES,

AND THE

LIVES of the illuſtrious MEN each COUNTY has produced.

Embelliſhed with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;

THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES,

Beſides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

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M DCC LXIX.

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A DESCRIPTION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

NORFOLK.

YARMOUTH makes a very good appearance from the ſea, and is eſteemed the neateſt, the moſt compact, and the moſt regularly built town in England; for the ſtreets being ſtreight and parallel to each other, the view is carried through them from the quay to the ſea, the town being ſeated on a peninſula, between the ſea and the harbour. The quay is the handſomeſt, and, perhaps, the largeſt in Europe, that of Seville in Spain only excepted: it is ſo extremely commodious, that people may ſtep directly from the ſhore, into any of the ſhips, and walk from one to another, as over a bridge, ſometimes for a quarter of a mile together, and is ſo ſpacious, that in ſome places, it is near

a hundred yards from the wharf to the houſes. On the wharf is a cuſtom-houſe and town-hall, with ſeveral merchants houſes, that are extremely well built, and make a fine appearance. Yarmouth is walled, and there is a ſmall platform of guns on a ſlip of land, at the entrance of the harbour, which is the principal defence of the town; the great guns that were round the walls having been removed by king Charles the Second. It is defended on the land ſide by the river or haven, which is on the weſt ſide of the town, with a draw-bridge over it. The port or entrance is to the ſouth, and the ſea on the eaſt; but the north, which joins to the main land, is covered only by a ſingle wall, and ſome old demoliſhed works. Here is one of the fineſt and beſt furniſhed market-places in England, for its extent, and the market is kept on Saturdays.

In this town are two churches, of which that of St. Nicholas, which was built in the reign of king Henry the Firſt, has ſo high a ſteeple, that it ſerves for a ſea-mark. There is here a fine hoſpital, and two charity-ſchools, for thirty-five boys, and thirty-two girls, all clothed and taught, the boys to make nets, and the girls ſpinning, knitting and plain-work.

The ſeamen employed here by the merchants are eſteemed the beſt in England, and tho' Yarmouth is not ſo large as Norwich, it is generally reckoned, in proportion to its extent, ſuperior in trade and wealth; for upwards of half a century ago, above one thouſand one hundred veſſels belonged to this port, beſides the ſhips which the merchants of this town were owners of, or concerned in, at other ports. Indeed its ſituation is exceedingly commodious for trade, it being ſeated on the German ocean, at the mouth of the Yare, which is navigable from hence to Norwich; beſides which,

which, there is a navigation from this town by the Waveny, to the ſouth parts of Norfolk, and the north of Suffolk, while the inhabitants trade to the north part of the county, by means of another river called the Thyrne. This port is the chief rendezvous of the colliers between Newcaſtle and London; for though there are ſome dangerous banks of ſand in the neighbourhood, the roads on the eaſt ſide of the town are ſo ſafe, that they are much frequented by veſſels that paſs and repaſs, and the inhabitants are at the expence of between 2 and 3000 l. a year, to keep the harbour clean. Yarmouth carries on a great trade, both to France, Holland, the North and Eaſt ſeas, and exports ſuch immenſe quantities of corn and malt, that many years ago, theſe articles are ſaid to have amounted to above two hundred and twenty thouſand quarters a year. This town has the whole herring fiſhery of this coaſt, in which the inhabitants employ a hundred and fifty veſſels, and between forty and fifty ſail, in the exportation: fifty thouſand barrels of herrings, which ſome magnify to forty thouſand laſts, containing forty millions of herrings, are generally taken and cured here in a year. Theſe herrings are chiefly exported by the merchants of Yarmouth, and the reſt, by thoſe of London, to Spain, Portugal and Italy, which, with the crapes, camblets, and other Norwich ſtuffs, occaſion much buſineſs, and employ a great number of hands and ſhipping.

The fiſhing fair here, or the ſeaſon for catching herrings, begins at Michaelmas, and laſts all the month of October, during which time, all the veſſels that come to fiſh for the merchants, from any part of England, as many do from the coaſts of Kent, Suſſex, and other counties, are allowed to catch, bring in and ſell their fiſh, free of all toll or duty. In the ſpring, here is almoſt as

great a fiſhing for mackrel; beſides which, the inhabitants carry on a fiſhing trade to the North ſeas, for white fiſh, called the North-ſea cod, and they have likewiſe a conſiderable trade to Norway and the Baltic, for oak, deal, pitch, tar, and all other naval ſtores. Theſe are chiefly conſumed in this port, where every year many ſhips are built. In ſhort, Yarmouth has more trade than any other town on the eaſt coaſt of England, except Hull in Yorkſhire.

In this town, and its neighbourhood, were ſeveral religious houſes, particularly on the north ſide of St. Nicholas's church, biſhop Herbert placed a priory of three or four Black monks, ſubordinate to the monaſtery at Norwich, before the year 1101. About the fifth year of the reign of Henry the Third, was built a houſe of Black friars, at the ſouth end of the town: and in the beginning of the reign of king Edward the Firſt, Thomas Faſtolff founded an hoſpital here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, conſiſting of a warden, eight brethren, and eight ſiſters. There were likewiſe in or near this town, two ſpitals, or houſes, for the ſupport of poor lazers or lepers, before the year 1374.

In the manor houſe of CASTOR, near Yarmouth, was an ancient free chapel, dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, as early as the reign of Edward the Firſt, and there is ſaid to have been a chantry in Caſtor-hall, founded by Sir John Faſtolff, Knt. which, at the diſſolution, was valued only at 2 l. 13 s. 4 d. per annum.

At HERINGBY, a village near Yarmouth, Hugh Attefenne, by his laſt will and teſtament, made in 1475, founded a college or hoſpital, called God's poor alms-houſe, for a maſter, three prieſts, eight poor men, and two ſervants, which, at the diſſolution,

lution, had a revenue of 231. 6s. 3d. per annum.

Sir John Faſtolff, a valiant and renowned general of the fifteenth century, was born of a good family in or near Yarmouth, in the year 1377. He ſerved his apprenticeſhip in arms, in the wars in France, under John, duke of Bedford, one of the moſt illuſtrious heroes of the age; and on this military theatre he afterwards continued to ſignalize himſelf for the ſpace of forty years. In 1413, he was intruſted with the government of the caſtle and dominion of Veires in Gaſcony; and riſing gradually thro' other preferments, he was at laſt appointed a general officer, and the king's lieutenant in Normandy. Soon after, as a reward of his merit, he was created a knight-banneret, and elected a companion of the moſt noble order of the garter. In the famous *battle of Herrings* (ſo called, becauſe the greateſt part of the convoy, which Sir John conducted upon that occaſion, conſiſted of *Herrings*) this gallant ſoldier, with a handful of men, defeated a large body of French and Scots, and put moſt of them to the ſword. In 1440 he returned, for the laſt time, to England; and being now of an advanced age, he paſſed the remainder of his days in peace and tranquillity. He died September the 6th, 1459, and was buried in the abbey-church of St. Bennet at the Holm in Norwich. Some people think, from the ſimilarity of the names, that Shakeſpeare's famous character of Sir John Falſtaff was drawn for this gentleman; but the more general and probable opinion is, that that character was intended for Sir John Oldcaſtle, lord Cobham, and that the name was changed to avoid giving offence to ſome of his deſcendants.

Eight miles ſouth-weſt of Yarmouth is TOFT-MONACHORUM. The manor and church of which

is dedicated to St. Margaret, were, in the reign of king Henry the Firſt, given by Robert, earl of Mellent and Leiceſter, to the abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, at Preaux in Normandy.

We ſhall now turn back to Norwich, and proceed from thence ſouth-eaſt eleven miles to LODDON, which is a ſmall town, that has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, the firſt held on Eaſter-Monday, for petty chapmen; and the other on the Monday after November 11, for horſes and hogs.

At RAVENINGHAM, ſouth-weſt of Loddon, Sir John of Norwich, Knt. about the ſeventeenth year of the reign of Edward the Third, founded a chantry or college of eight ſecular prieſts, who were to perform divine offices in the pariſh church of St. Andrew: but this college was ſoon after removed to the neighbouring village of Norton-Sub-Croſs, when a chapel, and other neceſſary buildings, were erected for the prieſts, who, in 1387, amounted to thirteen; but in the ſeventeenth year of the reign of Richard the Second, they were tranſlated to the caſtle of Mettingham, near Bungay in Suffolk.

At ALBY, ſouth-weſt of Loddon, biſhop Herbert, or Agas de Belfo, the wife of Robert de Kia, in the reign of Henry the Firſt, gave the church, which was dedicated to St. Mary, to the cathedral monaſtery of Norwich; upon which a prior and three Black monks were ſettled at this village, as a cell to that houſe, which continued till the diſſolution.

At LANGLEY, to the north of Loddon, Robert Fitz-Roger-Helk, built and endowed an abbey of Premonſtratenſian canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary in 1198. In this abbey were fifteen religious at the ſuppreſſion, when their yearly revenues were rented at 104 l. 16 s. 5 d.

Fourteen

Fourteen miles to the ſouth of Norwich is HARLESTON, a little dirty town, ſeated on the river Waveny, over which it has a bridge, at the diſtance of ninety-four miles from London. It has a market on Wedneſdays, and two fairs, held on the 5th of July, and the 9th of September, for horſes, ſheep, and petty chapmen.

At the ſame diſtance to the ſouth-weſt of Norwich is NEW BUCKENHAM, which is thus called to diſtinguiſh it from Old Buckenham, a neighbouring village, and they are ſuppoſed to have derived this name from the beach-trees growing there, called by the Saxons Bucken, while others derive it from the number of bucks in the neighbouring woods. Here was anciently a fine, ſtrong caſtle, and the lords of the manor claim the extraordinary privilege of being butlers at the coronation of our kings. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs; namely, one on the 29th of May, for cheeſe and cattle; and the other on the 22d of November, for cheeſe and toys. At the village of Old Buckenham, William de Albini, earl of Chicheſter or Arundel, built a priory of Black canons, in the reign of king Stephen, and dedicated it to St. James the Apoſtle; in which, at the time of the diſſolution, were a prior and eight canons, whoſe revenues amounted to 108 l. 10 s. 2 d. per annum.

Six miles to the ſouth of New Buckenham is DIS, which is ſeated on the ſide of a hill, by the river WAVENY, on the moſt ſouthern borders of the county. It has a charity-ſchool, and a market on Fridays, with a fair on the 28th of October, for cattle and toys.

Eight miles ſouth weſt of Norwich is WIMONDHAM, or WINDHAM, a ſmall town, in which the inhabitants are generally employed in making of ſpindles, ſpigots and faucets, ſpoons,

trenchers, and other wooden ware, in which both the women and children work. They enjoy a writ of privilege as an ancient demeſne, from ſerving at aſſizes or ſeſſions. In this town is a free-ſchool, founded and well endowed by king Henry the Firſt's butler; and Matthew Parker, archbiſhop of Canterbury, gave a ſcholarſhip in his college of Corpus Chriſti in Cambridge, in favour of a ſcholar born in this town, provided he continued two years without interruption at Windham ſchool, and was fifteen years of age. Here is alſo a charity-ſchool, for teaching thirty children, and likewiſe a houſe of correction, the keeper of which, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, had forty ſhillings a year paid him by the treaſurer of the county.

Here was a monaſtery of Black monks, of the order of St. Bennet, built by William de Albini Pincerna, butler to king Henry the Firſt, who annexed it as a cell to St. Alban's. However the founder made theſe reſerves, that they ſhould chooſe their prior from among themſelves, and that the monks here ſhould only pay a mark of ſilver yearly to the abbot of St. Alban's. In the reign of Henry the Sixth, it was diſcharged from any dependance upon that abbey, and was valued at the diſſolution at about 212 l. a year, by Dugdale. Its chapel is now the pariſh church, and has two lofty tower ſteeples.

Ket the tanner, who headed the rabble in the reign of Edward the Sixth, was an inhabitant of this town. His followers amounted to about 16,000 in number, and he ſat as chancellor or ſupreme judge, with his council, under a great oak, called the Tree of reformation, and there pretended to decide all controverſies, and iſſued out his orders. He took Norwich without much oppoſition, and afterwards pillaged and ſet it on fire.

The

The earl of Warwick, after hanging threeſcore of the rebels that fell into his hands, offered them a general pardon, upon which they laid down their arms; but Ket flying, was taken ſoon after in a barn, and, with his brother William, was brought to London, where they received ſentence of death: they were then ſent back to this town, when William Ket was hanged on the ſteeple of Windham church, and his brother Robert, the arch rebel, hung in chains, upon the caſtle of Norwich. This town afterwards ſuffered other calamities; for on the 11th of June 1615, it was ſet on fire by incendiaries, when above three hundred dwelling-houſes were conſumed, and in 1631, it was viſited by a ſevere peſtilence.

Proceeding five miles farther to the ſouth-weſt, we come to ATTLEBOROUGH, which is ſeated fourteen miles north-eaſt of Thetford, fifteen ſouth-weſt of Norwich, and ninety-three north-eaſt by north of London. It was anciently, not only a city, but the chief town in the county, and had a palace and collegiate church. It is ſtill a conſiderable town, and has a good market for fat bullocks, ſheep, other cattle and proviſions; and has three fairs, on April 11, Holy Thurſday, and Auguſt 15, for cattle and toys. In the pariſh church of this town, the executors of Sir Robert Mortimer, Knt. agreeably to his will, erected a chantry or college, dedicated to the exaltation of the Croſs, and endowed it for a maſter or warden, and four ſecular prieſts, in the reign of Henry the Fourth; its revenues at the diſſolution were valued at 21 l. 16 s. 3 d. per annum.

Six miles to the ſouthward of Attleborough is EAST HARLING, which is thus called to diſtinguiſh it from two villages, that lie to the weſt of it, and are called Weſt-Harling, and Middle-Harling. It has a market on Tueſdays, chiefly for

linen-yarn, and linen-cloth, and two fairs, one held on the 4th of May, for horned cattle and toys, and the other on the 24th of October, for ſheep and toys.

At RUSHFORD, a village on the ſouth-weſt ſide of Eaſt-Harling, Sir Edmund de Gonville, rector of the pariſh, built a chapel or college, upon the ſite of the parſonage houſe, about the year 1342, for a maſter or warden, and ſix ſecular prieſts. It was dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt, and valued on the ſuppreſſion at 85l. 15s. a year.

Nine miles to the ſouth-weſt of Harling is THETFORD, which took its name from its being ſeated on a ſmall river called the Thet. It is divided by the Little-Ouſe, which here ſeparates it from the county of Suffolk, and ſtands in a pleaſant open country, at the diſtance of eighty miles from London. It is generally ſuppoſed to have ariſen out of the ruins of the ancient Sitomagus, a Roman city, which was deſtroyed by the Danes: but Dr. Gale, and others, place that city at Woolpit. However, here are ſtill many marks of antiquity, particularly a large mount, called Caſtlehill, thrown up to a great height, and fortified by a double rampart: according to tradition it had walls, though now there is no appearance of them, and it is ſuppoſed to have been a Daniſh camp. This town was once the metropolis of the kingdom of the Eaſt-Angles, and in 672, the archbiſhop of Canterbury held a ſynod here. In the year 870, it was ravaged by the Danes, during the reign of king Edmund. Some years after they returned again, took Thetford, and ſet it on fire; but for want of proviſions, were forced to return back to their ſhips. In the year 1099, they came again, when they burnt Thetford and Cambridge, and rifled all the abbeys and churches in their way, gaining a great deal of plunder, with which

which they returned to their ſhips. After Canute the Dane became king, Thetford began to recover, and was ſo proſperous in the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, that there were nine hundred and forty-ſeven burgeſſes; and in the time of William the Conqueror, it had ſeven hundred and twenty manſions, and the chief magiſtrate was ſtiled conſul. It was a biſhop's ſee for ſome time, when Herbert Loſinga, being made biſhop of Thetford by William Rufus, removed the ſee to Norwich, where it has continued ever ſince. Yet in the reign of Henry the Eighth, Thetford was a place of ſuch conſequence, as to be made a ſuffragan ſee to Norwich; but it continued ſo only during that reign.

Thetford, in its flouriſhing ſtate, had eight monaſteries. In the church of St. Mary's at Thetford was a ſociety of religious ſo early as the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor, if not before; and hither Arfaſtus, biſhop of the Eaſt-Angles, removed his epiſcopal ſeat from North Elmham in 1075; but it continued here only nineteen or twenty years before its being tranſlated to Norwich: after which, about the year 1104, a monaſtery for Cluniac monks was built here by Roger Bigod, or Bigot, and made ſubordinate to the abbey of Cluny in France; but the place being found inconvenient, they began a more ſtately monaſtery without the town, on the other ſide the river. This was finiſhed in 1114, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was made deniſon in the fiftieth year of the reign of Edward the Third. Upon the diſſolution of religious houſes its revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to 312 l. 14 s. 4 d. a year; but according to Speed, to 418 l. 6 s. 3 d. A priory of regular canons, of the order of the Holy Sepulchre, or the Croſs, was founded here by William, earl of Warren, in the reign of king

king Stephen, which, at the time of the ſuppreſſion, had ſix religious, whoſe annual revenue amounted to 39 l. 6 s. 8d. Of this priory we have given an engraved view. On the Suffolk ſide of the town, was an ancient houſe of regular canons, dedicated to St. George; but becoming ruinous and forſaken, abbot Hugh de Narwold, and the convent of St. Edmundſbury in Suffolk, placed nuns here; and at the diſſolution there was a prioreſs and ten nuns, whoſe revenue amounted to 40 l. 11 s. 2 d. per annum. Towards the beginning of the reign of Edward the Third, a houſe of friars is ſaid to have been founded in the town by Henry, earl, afterwards duke of Lancaſter. Without the town was an hoſpital, dedicated to St. Mary, endowed at the ſuppreſſion with only 11 l. 13 s. 6 d. per annum. Here was an hoſpital, called God's houſe, before the twenty-fourth of Edward the Firſt. In the reign of Richard the Second, here was a houſe of Auguſtine friars, founded by John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter; and here was likewiſe a college, dedicated to St. Mary, conſiſting of a maſter and fellows, which, at the ſuppreſſion, was valued at 109 l. per annum.

Thetford had likewiſe formerly a mint. It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, who granted the inhabitants a mayor, a recorder, ten aldermen, twenty common-council men, two of whom are generally chamberlains, a town-clerk, a ſword-bearer, and two ſerjeants at mace. It has been honoured with the preſence of many of our ſovereigns, particularly Henry the Firſt, and Henry the Second. Queen Elizabeth and king James the Firſt, made it one of their hunting ſeats, and the latter had a palace here, which is ſtill called the King's-houſe.

The South East View of Thetford Priory, *in the County of* Norfolk.

Vol. III. pa. 11.

It is ſtill of conſiderable extent, though it is far from being ſo populous as it was in the reign of Edward the Third, when it had twenty churches, and the above-mentioned religious houſes. All the churches now left are only one on the Suffolk, and two on the Norfolk ſide of the town. An act of parliament was paſſed for founding an hoſpital and a grammar-ſchool here, and for maintaining a preacher, to preach four days in the year for ever, agreeable to the will of Sir Richard Fulmerſton: and here is an hoſpital for ſix poor perſons, built and endowed by Sir Charles Harbord, and his ſon William. Sir Joſeph Williamſon, ſecretary of ſtate to king Charles the Second, erected a council-houſe, and preſented the corporation a ſword and mace. The Lent aſſizes for the county of Norfolk are commonly held in the Guildhall of this town, and here is a common jail, a Bridewell, and a work-houſe. The chief manufacture in this town is woollen cloth. The Ouſe is navigable hither from Lynn, by lighters and barges. The market is held on Saturdays; and there are three fairs, on May 14, Auguſt 2, and September 25, for cheeſe, cattle and toys.

From hence a road extends thirteen miles northward to WATTON, a town eighty-nine miles diſtant from London. It has a church, only twenty yards long and eleven broad; and the ſteeple, which has three large bells, is round at bottom, and octangular at top. In 1673 a dreadful fire breaking out in this town, conſumed upwards of ſixty houſes. The town has a market on Wedneſdays, and three fairs, held on the 29th of June, the 29th of September, and the 28th of October, for toys, &c.

About a mile and a half to the northward of Watton is CARBROOK, a village, which was probably a much more important place than it is

at

at preſent, ſince it had formerly two churches, dedicated to St. Peter and St. John Baptiſt, which Maud, counteſs of Clare, gave to the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem; and in the reign of Henry the Second, ſome nuns were placed in an hoſpital near the ſmaller church, but were afterwards removed, and a preceptory of a maſter and ſeveral brethren continued here till the diſſolution of religious houſes, when the eſtate belonging to it was valued at 65 l. 2 s. 11 d. a year.

In the pariſh church of TOMPSON, which is ſeated to the ſouth of Watton, Sir Thomas de Shardelow, knight, and his brother John, eſtabliſhed and endowed a perpetual chantry, or college, of a maſter and five chaplains, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints, in the twenty-third of Edward the Third, which at the diſſolution was endowed with 52 l. 15 s. 7 d. per annum.

HINGHAM is ſeated ſix miles north-eaſt of Watton, in the road to Norwich, ninety-four miles north-eaſt of London, and at the beginning of the preſent century, had the misfortune to be burnt down; but it was ſoon rebuilt, in a much handſomer manner than it was before, and the inhabitants, not many years ago, were reckoned a genteel people, who dreſſed ſo much in the faſhion, that the town was called in the neighbourhood Little London. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the 6th of March, on Whitſun-Tueſday, and on the 2d of October, for toys, &c.

From Hingham a road extends ten miles north to DEREHAM, MARKET-DEREHAM, or EAST-DEREHAM, which is thus diſtinguiſhed from a village named Dereham, at a ſmall diſtance from Downham. This town had alſo the misfortune of being burnt down to the ground not many years

years ago, but has been ſince rebuilt in a very handſome manner, and is a fine large town, with ſeveral hamlets belonging to it. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, held on the 3d of February, and the 28th of September, for cattle and toys. In this town Witburga, the youngeſt daughter of king Anna, founded a monaſtery before the year 743, which was deſtroyed by the Danes.

At WENDLING, on the weſt ſide of Eaſt-Dereham, was an abbey of the Premonſtratenſian order, built by William de Wendling, clerk, before the fifty-ſecond year of king Henry the Third, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. A little before the diſſolution it had an abbot and four canons, and its revenues were valued at the diſſolution at 55 l. 18 s. 4 d. per annum.

Six miles north-eaſt of Dereham is REPEHAM, which was formerly remarkable for having three fine churches in one church-yard, belonging to three ſeveral lordſhips, but they have been long demoliſhed, ſo that the ruins of one is all that remains. The chief trade of the town is in malt, great quantities of which are ſold in this market, which is held on Saturdays, and it has a fair on the 29th of June, for ordinary horſes and petty chapmen.

ST. BENNET'S IN THE HOLME, to the ſouth-eaſt of Repeham, was given by a petty prince, called Horn, to a ſociety of religious hermits, about the year 800, who built a chapel here, but it was deſtroyed by the Danes in 870. In the next century a religious, named Wolfric, rebuilt the chapel and houſes, and brought ſome other religious thither, and before the year 1020, king Canute endowed this place, and rendered it an abbey of Benedictine monks, the revenues of which, at the diſſolution, amounted to 583 l. 17 s. per annum.

annum. This monaſtery was ſo ſtrongly fortified by the monks, that it reſembled rather a caſtle than a cloyſter, and held out a long time againſt William the Conqueror, till it was betrayed to him by one of the monks, on condition of his being made an abbot; but inſtead of meeting with this reward, the Conqueror cauſed him to be hanged for his treachery.

At MONTJOY, ſouth-weſt of Repeham, William de Giſneto founded a chapel, in the reign of king John, dedicated to St. Lawrence, and gave it to the prior and convent of Windham, who ſettled in it a prior and ſeveral Black canons.

From Repeham a road extends three miles north-eaſt to CAWSTON, or CASTON, a ſmall market town, only remarkable for its bridge over the Bure, and its having a market on Tueſdays, and three fairs, held on the 10th of January, the 14th of April, and the 28th of Auguſt, for ſheep and petty chapmen.

Three miles north-eaſt of Cawſton is ALESHAM, which is ſeated thirteen miles to the north-eaſtward of Norwich, and a hundred and nineteen miles north-eaſt of London. It is a very populous, but poor town, chiefly inhabited by knitters of ſtockings. Here is a court kept here for the dutchy of Lancaſter, the manor having been granted by king Edward the Third, to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, the firſt held on the 23d of March, and the other on the laſt Tueſday in September, for lean cattle, ordinary horſes and petty chapmen.

At OXENHEAD, a little to the ſouth-eaſt of Aleſham, was diſcovered in the year 1667 ſeveral urns, about two feet under the ſurface of the ground, alſo a ſquare piece of brick work, each ſide of which meaſured two yards and three quarters. It had upwards of thirty holes, each about

two

two inches in diameter; and as it was one entire piece, without any joining, was ſuppoſed to have been formed and burnt in the place where it was found. Upon breaking it open, there appeared ſeveral apartments one above another, in which were placed ſmall pots, and in the lower partition was one larger than the reſt, which had a very ſmall mouth, and contained near two gallons of water, which was clear, and without either taſte or ſmell; after the water was poured off, there remained in the veſſel a heavy lump of a cruſty ſubſtance.

We ſhall now turn back to the ſouth-eaſt, and paſſing by Cawſton, Repeham and Dereham, proceed 13 miles on the ſame road to SWAFFHAM, which is ſituated thirty-four miles north-eaſt of Newmarket, and is eſteemed one of the beſt towns in the county. It ſtands in an air highly commended by the phyſicians, who ſend their patients hither for the recovery of their health. The church is a ſumptuous ſtructure, and the north iſle, which is very fine, is ſaid to have been built by a travelling pedlar. The town is famous for the making of ſpurs, and in its neighbourhood are frequent horſe races. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, one held on the 12th of May, for ſheep, cattle and toys; and the others on the 21ſt of July, and the 3d of November, for cattle and toys.

At SPARLE, a village on the north ſide of Swaffham, was an alien priory of Black monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Florence, near Salmur in France, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At MARHAM, weſt of Swaffham, was a convent of the Ciſtercian order, built and endowed in 1251 by Iſabella de Albini, counteſs of Arundel, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which, about the time of the diſſolution, was an abbeſs and

and eight nuns, whose annual revenues amounted to 13l. 6s. 1d.

Four miles to the west of Swaffham is NARFORD, the seat of Price Fountain, Esq; built and furnished by the late Sir Andrew Fountain. The house is a good one, but is most to be admired for the curiosities it contains, among which is a cabinet of earthen ware, done after the designs of Raphael, a collection of antique urns, vases, sphynxes, and statues, among which is a small modern sleeping Venus, in white marble, by Delveau, which is admired for its female softness and delicacy. Here is a capital collection of prints, and a number of fine paintings, by the greatest masters.

About a mile from Narford is NARBOROUGH, a village, which John Bramis, a monk of Thetford, who lived in the reign of Henry the Fourth, tells us, was a city about the year 500; but this circumstance is mentioned by no other author, and even in Doomsday-book, it is called a village, yet near it is a strong and military intrenchment upon a high hill, conveniently seated to command the neighbouring fields.

A little to the south-west of Narborough is PENTNEY, where Robert de Vallibus, or Vaux, who came over with William the Conqueror, erected a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, which, about the time of the dissolution, had twelve canons, whose annual revenues were valued at 170l. 4s. 9d.

Four miles to the north-east of Pentney is CASTLE-ACRE, a village, which received its name from its castle, which is seated in a field, and was the ancient seat of the earls of Warren. John, the last earl of that name, gave this manor and all his lands to king Edward the Second. Afterwards king Edward the Third, in the year 1328, granted

The South View of Castle-Acre Castle, *in the County of* Norfolk.

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granted the above donation to Richard Fitz-Allen, earl of Arundel, the ſon of Alice, ſiſter and heireſs to John the laſt earl of Warren; in which family it continued till the firſt of queen Elizabeth, when Henry, earl of Arundel, ſold it to Sir Thomas Greſham. It lately belonged to the right honourable the lord Lovel. Of this caſtle we have given a view.

Here a priory was founded by William Warren, earl of Surrey, in the year 1090. It was ſubordinate to Lewes in Suſſex, and Herbert, biſhop of Norwich, placed in it Cluniac monks, under the rule of St. Benedict. It was ſeized as an alien priory on the twenty-fourth of Edward the Firſt, but in the thirty-fourth year of his reign, proof being made that it was in no reſpect ſubject to the power or aſſeſſments of any foreign king or monaſtery, except only, that whenever the abbot of Clugny came into England he uſed to viſit this priory, it was reſtored to its former privileges and poſſeſſions. Its annual value, according to Dugdale, was 306 l. 11 s. 4 d. and according to Speed, 304 l. 17 s. 5 d. This priory alſo lately belonged to the lord Lovel.

About thirteen miles ſouth by-weſt of Swaffham is METHWOLD, which is [illegible] miles diſtant from London, and is remarkable for breeding excellent rabbits, called Mewil-rabbits: it was even ſo remarkable for theſe in the time of Canute the Dane, that the duke of Lancaſter contracted to have his family ſupplied with them for two months every year. This town has a market on Thurſdays, and a fair on the 25th of April, for cattle and toys.

About ſeven miles ſouth weſt of Methwald is WEETING-ALL-SAINTS, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from a village, named Weeting St. Mary. This is a village about half a mile from Brandon Ferry, and has an old ruined caſtle. At about a mile diſtance

tance is a hill, with trenches or ancient fortifications; and on the weſt ſide of this place, on the edge of a fen, is a bank and ditch, which extend for ſome miles. In the fields of Weeting is a pleaſant path, called Walſingham-way, it being the road the pilgrims uſed to paſs, who went to viſit the lady of Walſingham; and at about a mile northward is another way like the former, on which were two croſſes of ſtone, ſuppoſed to be erected for the direction of pilgrims.

HOCKOLD, or HOCKWOLD, is another village ſeated on the Little Ouſe; and has a fair on the 25th of July, for toys.

At BROMHILL, near Methwold, was a priory of Auſtin canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr, in the beginning of the reign of king Edward the Third, but was ſuppreſſed in May, 1528, by a bull of pope Clement.

At SLEVESHOLM, in the pariſh of Methwold, William, earl Warren, about the year 1222, placed a prior and ſome Cluniac monks; and here was alſo a cell or hoſpital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and ſubordinate to Caſtle-acre.

At NEWBRIDGE, north-eaſt of Methwold, was a chapel dedicated to St. Mary and St. Laurence, with a ſmall religious houſe adjoining, in which, about the year 1373, lived a maſter and brethren lepers; but afterwards, about the year 1449, a maſter, wardens and friars hermites. At length it became ſo decayed, that, at the diſſolution, it was valued as a free chapel, at only 3 l. 7 s. 6 d. per annum.

Beſides the great men already mentioned in treating of the towns of this county, it has produced the following.

John Baconthorp, ſurnamed the Reſolute Doctor, and one of the moſt learned men of his time,

was

was born, about the latter end of the ſeventeenth century, at Baconthorp, an obſcure village in Norfolk, from which he took his name. In his youth he was a monk in the convent of Blackney; and afterwards became provincial of the Engliſh Carmelites. He was eſteemed the head of the Averroïſts, the followers of the philoſopher Averroës. Of his works, which were numerous, ſome were publiſhed, and others never ſaw the light. He died at London in the year 1346.

Sir Richard Greſham, father of the famous Sir Thomas Greſham, founder of Greſham college, and himſelf a very eminent merchant, was the ſon of John Greſham of Holt, in the county of Norfolk, Eſq; He entered early into trade, and carried it on with ſuch uncommon ſucceſs, that he ſoon acquired a very plentiful fortune. He was choſen ſheriff of London in 1531, when he received the honour of knighthood from king Henry the Eighth; and, about ſix years after, diſcharged the important office of lord mayor of that city. It was he that firſt projected the ſcheme, which was afterwards ſo happily executed by his ſon, of building the Royal Exchange. He died at his houſe at Bethnal green near London, February the 21ſt, 1548.

Sir John Greſham, brother to Sir Richard above-mentioned, a very eminent merchant, and a munificent patron of learning, was born at his father's ſeat of Holt in the county of Norfolk. During his brother's mayoralty in 1537, he ſerved the honourable office of ſheriff of London, and received the honour of knighthood; and in 1546, was choſen lord mayor of that city. He founded the free-ſchool of Holt, endowed it with the manor of Holt-Hales, and veſted the government of it in the worſhipful company of fiſhmon-

gers

gers in London. He died on the 23d of October, 1556, and was interred in the church of St. Michael Baſſiſhaw.

John Aylmer, biſhop of London in the ſixteenth century, was born, of honourable parents, at Aylmer-hall, in the county of Norfolk, in the year 1521. After finiſhing his ſtudies at Cambridge, he was admitted into the family of Henry Gray, marquis of Dorſet, afterwards duke of Suffolk, where he had the honour to inſtruct, in the Greek and Latin languages, that excellent lady, Jane Gray, ſometimes ſtiled queen Jane. By the intereſt of this nobleman, he obtained the archdeaconry of Stow, in the dioceſe of Lincoln; the profits of which, however, he did not enjoy during the reign of queen Mary, when he thought proper to retire beyond ſeas; but returning to his native country, on the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, he was promoted, firſt to the archdeaconry of Lincoln, and afterwards to the ſee of London, which he enjoyed till his death. He ſeems to have been a man of learning and integrity, but of a warm and paſſionate temper, which expoſed him to many difficulties; for he was almoſt always engaged in a quarrel either with the clergy or laity of his dioceſe. He wrote an anſwer to a book of the famous John Knox, intitled, *the Firſt Blaſt againſt the Monſtrous Regimen and Empire of Women.* He died on the 3d of June, 1594, and was interred in his own cathedral of St. Paul.

Sir Edward Coke, the great oracle of the law, and lord chief juſtice of the King's-bench in the reign of king James the Firſt, was the ſon of Robert Coke, Eſq; of Mileham in the county of Norfolk, and born at his father's ſeat in the year 1550. He received his education at the free-ſchool of Norwich, and at Trinity-college in Cambridge, whence he removed to Clifford's Inn

London,

London, and was entered a ſtudent of the Inner Temple. He had not been long in this laſt place before he gave a proof of his extraordinary abilities; for a caſe relating to the cook of the Temple, which had puzzled all the lawyers, was ſtated by him in ſuch a maſterly manner, as attracted the admiration of the whole bench of judges. It was probably on account of this proof of his abilities, that he was called to the bar, when but of ſix years ſtanding; and having married a wife with a very large fortune, he was ſoon advanced to the moſt conſiderable dignities. The cities of Norwich and Coventry choſe him their recorder; the county of Norfolk elected him one of their repreſentatives; and the Houſe of Commons made him their ſpeaker in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of queen Elizabeth. That princeſs appointed him her ſolicitor-general in 1592, and her attorney-general the year following. In May, 1603, he was knighted by king James the Firſt, and in November of the ſame year he managed the trial againſt Sir Walter Raleigh, whom, it muſt be confeſſed, however little to his honour, he treated with a ſcurrility of language, which can by no means be juſtified; calling him, with a virulence almoſt beyond example, traitor, monſter, viper, and ſpider of hell. In 1606 he was appointed lord chief juſtice of the Common-Pleas; and, in 1613, lord chief juſtice of the King's-Bench, and a member of the privy-council: but happening to give offence to the court, partly by a diſpute which he had with the lord chancellor Egerton, concerning the juriſdiction of their reſpective courts, partly by his too eager proſecution of the murderers of Sir Thomas Overbury, and partly by an opinion he had delivered with regard to the king's power in eccleſiaſtical affairs;

he was not only removed from his office in 1616, but was, ſome time after, thrown into the Tower. Upon the calling of a new parliament in 1625, the miniſtry, to prevent his being choſen a member, took care to have him appointed ſheriff of Buckinghamſhire; but he found means to procure a ſeat in the parliament which met in 1628, and acted in it with his uſual ſpirit and vigour. He ſpoke warmly for the redreſs of grievances, argued boldly for the liberty of the ſubject, and ſtrenuouſly ſupported the privileges of the Houſe of Commons; and in this parliament it was that he did his country the greateſt ſervice, which not only himſelf, but perhaps any other ſubject ever performed; I mean his framing the Petition of Rights, that great bulwark of the Engliſh conſtitution. By this, however, and ſeveral other ſteps, he again drew upon himſelf the reſentment of the miniſtry; for, by an order of council, his papers were ſeized, and even his laſt will, while he lay upon his death bed. He expired at his houſe at Stoke-Pogey's in Buckinghamſhire, September the 3d, 1634, aged eighty-ſix. He was always at variance with the great Sir Francis Bacon, whom he ſeems to have excelled as much in the knowledge of the law, as the other did him in all the branches of polite literature. It muſt, at the ſame time, be remarked, to his credit, that in his numerous conteſts with his different adverſaries, he generally came off, if not with honour, at leaſt with ſafety; ſo that king James had reaſon to ſay of him, *that which ever way he was thrown he would fall upon his feet.* His works are well known and greatly eſteemed, particularly *his Reports*, and his *Inſtitutes of the Laws of England.*

Sir

Sir Henry Spelman, an eminent antiquary in the end of the ſixteenth and beginning of the ſeventeenth century, was deſcended of an ancient and honourable family, and born, in the year 1562, at Congham, a ſmall village near Lynn-Regis in Norfolk. He had his education in Trinity college, Cambridge, where, however, he continued not above two years and a half. Thence removing, upon the death of his father, to Lincoln's Inn, London, he applied himſelf diligently to the ſtudy of the law; but confined his attention chiefly to the more liberal parts of that ſcience. Soon after he returned to his native country, where he poſſeſſed in his own right, and in that of his wife, a conſiderable eſtate; and ſettling as a country-gentleman and farmer, divided his time equally between ſtudy and buſineſs. In 1606, he was appointed high ſheriff of Norfolk; and about three years after was named one of the commiſſioners for determining the diſputed titles to lands and manors in Ireland. At about the fiftieth year of his age he returned to London, where he continued to reſide during the remaining part of his life; and this he employed, with unwearied application, in preparing for the preſs, thoſe many learned works, which he had already begun, and, in ſome meaſure, compleated. In compliment to his merit, which was univerſally allowed, king Charles the Firſt offered him the maſterſhip of Sutton's hoſpital; but this, as he was now old, and in tolerable good circumſtances, he thought proper to decline, though with many expreſſions of gratitude. He died in the year 1641, and was interred in Weſtminſter-abbey. His works are numerous, and all of them valuable in their kind. The principal are, *Aſpilogia*, a Diſcourſe concerning thoſe marks of honour, now called *Arms*: *De non temerandis Eccleſiis*: *De Sepulturâ*, or *Of Burial*

Burial fees: *the Hiſtory of the Engliſh councils*: *A Treatiſe concerning tythes*; another *concerning Tenures*: but his moſt capital performance, and that by which he is beſt known, is his *Gloſſary*, a work replete with the moſt profound erudition.

Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, a gallant ſea-officer in the end of the laſt, and beginning of the preſent century, was born of obſcure parents at a ſmall town near Clay in Norfolk, in the year 1650. He was firſt bound apprentice to a ſhoemaker; but his high ſpirit diſdaining ſuch a mean employment, he ſoon after left it, and went to ſea as cabin boy to the famous Sir John Narborough. By this gentleman he was promoted, for his bravery, to the rank of lieutenant; and riſing gradually by the force of merit, through the inferior commiſſions of captain, commodore, and vice-admiral, he was at laſt advanced to be rear-admiral of England, and admiral and commander in chief of the fleet. From the time of his entering into the ſervice, to that of his death, he had a capital ſhare in all the naval battles that were fought by the Engliſh. He diſtinguiſhed himſelf particularly before Algiers, in Dublin-bay, in the battle of La Hogue, in the reduction of Gibraltar, in the action at Malaga, and at the ſiege of Toulon; but, in his return from this laſt enterprize, his ſhip, *the Aſſociation*, unhappily ſtriking on the rocks, called *the Biſhop and his Clerks*, was inſtantly ſhipwrecked, and himſelf, and all his crew amounting to nine hundred men, periſhed in the ocean. This unfortunate event happened October the 22d, 1707. The admiral's body being thrown aſhore on one of the Scilly iſlands, was ſtripped by ſome fiſhermen and buried in the ſand; but it was afterwards taken up and removed to London, where after lying ſome time in ſtate, it was interred with great funeral pomp, in Weſtminſter-

minſter-abbey, and a monument was erected to his memory, by the expreſs appointment of her majeſty queen Anne.

Robert Brady, a noted hiſtorian and phyſician of the ſeventeenth century, was born in the county of Norfolk, and educated in Caius-college in Cambridge, where he took his degrees. He was ſucceſſively keeper of the records in the Tower of London, Regius profeſſor of phyſic in the univerſity of Cambridge, and phyſician in ordinary to king James the Second. He is chiefly known for his *Compleat Hiſtory of England from the firſt entrance of the Romans, unto the end of the reign of king Richard the Second*, in three vols. fol. He died on the 19th of Auguſt, 1700.

John Pearſon, a learned divine, and biſhop of Cheſter in the ſeventeenth century, was the ſon of Mr. Robert Pearſon, rector of Creake and Snoring in Norfolk, and born at this laſt place February the 28th, 1613. After finiſhing his education at Eton and Cambridge, he entered into orders, and was collated to the prebend of Netherhaven in the church of Sarum. In 1640, he became chaplain to the lord keeper Finch; and, about three years after, was appointed miniſter of St. Clement's Eaſt-Cheap in London. In 1657 he and Mr. Gunning, maintained a diſpute with two Roman Catholic prieſts, concerning the nature of ſchiſm: a falſe and ſpurious account of which was afterwards printed at Paris. Upon the reſtoration he was created doctor in divinity, and inſtalled archdeacon of Surrey; and riſing gradually through other preferments, he was at laſt advanced to the biſhopric of Cheſter. This he enjoyed above thirteen years, and dying July the 16th, 1686, was interred in his own cathedral. Beſides his *Expoſition of the Creed*, which is well known, he

wrote a vindication of St. Ignatius's epiſtles, and ſome other tracts.

Sir Roger L'Eſtrange, a well known writer in the ſeventeenth century, was the ſon of Sir Hamond L'Eſtrange, and born at Hunſtanton in this county, December the 17th, 1616. Upon the breaking out of the civil war, he eſpouſed the royal cauſe, for which he was a remarkable ſufferer, and was once in the moſt imminent danger of loſing his life; for having, in 1654, obtained a commiſſion of his majeſty for ſurprizing Lynn in Norfolk, then in the poſſeſſion of the parliament, his deſign was diſcovered by two of his aſſociates; and he was accordingly ſeized, conducted to London, and tried hy a court martial, who condemned him to ſuffer death; but he was afterwards reprieved, and continued in Newgate for upwards of three years. Eſcaping thence in 1648, he retired beyond ſeas; and returning to England about five years after, he applied to Oliver Cromwell, before whom, having once happened to play on a baſs-viol, he was from that circumſtance nicknamed *Oliver's Fidler*. Being naturally a man of lively parts, and of a fluent ſtyle, he begun, ſoon after the reſtoration, to eſtabliſh a news-paper, called, *the Public Intelligencer and the News*; but this was laid down to make room for the London Gazette, the firſt paper of which appeared on the 4th of February, 1666. Mr. L'Eſtrange, however, by way of compenſation, was appointed Licenſer of the Preſs; a poſt, at that time, of ſome truſt and profit. He afterwards wrote a periodical paper, called *the Obſervator*, in defence of the government; and, upon the acceſſion of king James the Second to the throne, he was advanced to the honour of knighthood. After the revolution he met with ſome trouble on account of his attachment to the abdicated prince; but he

was

was suffered, nevertheless, to go to the grave in peace. He died December the 11th, 1704, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. His original compositions are but little esteemed; his translations are better known; particularly his *Seneca's Morals*, and *Æsop's Fables*.

Thomas Shadwell, poet laureat to king William the Third and queen Mary, was descended of an ancient family in Staffordshire, and born at Lanton-hall in Norfolk in the year 1640. Having compleated his education at Caius-college, Cambridge, he removed to the Middle Temple, London, where he applied himself to the study of the law; but he had not spent much time in this laborious occupation, when he set out on his travels; and, upon his return to England, he fell into the acquaintance of the most celebrated wits of the age. Being naturally possessed of a good taste, and some genius, he resolved to cultivate the favour of the muses, and, in 1668, his comedy, called, *the Sullen Lovers*, or *the Impertinents*, made its appearance. From this time forwards, he continued to advance in reputation till after the revolution, when he was appointed poet laureat and historiographer to their majesties, in the room of Mr. Dryden. These honourable employments he enjoyed till his death, which happened in Nov. 1692, in the fifty-second year of his age. Besides the play above-mentioned, he wrote sixteen others, among which were *the Humourists*, *the Virtuoso*, *the Squire of Alsatia*, &c. He likewise wrote several poems. An edition of his works in four volumes 8vo, was published in 1720. Mr. Dryden treats him with great severity in his satire, called *Mac-Flecknoe*.

Thomas Herring, archbishop of Canterbury, was the son of the reverend Mr. John Herring, rector of Walsoken in Norfolk; and was born at

that place in the year 1693. He had his education at the ſchool of Wiſbech in the Iſle of Ely, and at Jeſus college in Cambridge. In 1717 he commenced maſter of arts, and entering into holy orders, became ſucceſſively chaplain to Dr. Fleetwood, then biſhop of Ely, rector of Rettingdon in Eſſex, of Barley in Hertfordſhire, and of All-hallows the Great in London; preacher to the ſociety in Lincoln's Inn, chaplain to the king, dean of Rocheſter, and in 1737 was advanced to the biſhopric of Bangor. In 1743 he was tranſlated to the archiepiſcopal ſee of York. Here, during the rebellion in 1745, he diſtinguiſhed himſelf remarkably by his loyalty and activity. He formed an aſſociation of the nobility, gentry, and clergy of the county, to defend the government, and oppoſe the rebels. His merit, by this, and ſeveral other means, was rendered ſo conſpicuous, that, upon the death of archbiſhop Potter in 1747, he was tranſlated to the ſee of Canterbury. This high dignity he enjoyed about ſix years, and dying in 1753, was interred privately, according to his own deſire, in Croyden-church. He was diſtinguiſhed as an excellent preacher, and his ſermons were publiſhed, in 1763, in two volumes, 8vo.

Humphry Hody, a learned divine in the end of the ſeventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century, was born January the 1ſt, 1659, at Odcombe in this county, and educated at Wadham-college in Oxford, of which he was choſen a fellow. He afterwards became chaplain to Dr. Stillingfleet, biſhop of Worceſter, and then to Dr. Tillotſon, archbiſhop of Canterbury, as alſo to Dr. Tenniſon, his ſucceſſor. By the intereſt of this laſt prelate, he was advanced ſucceſſively to the united rectories of St. Michael-Royal and St. Martin's Vintrey in London, to the rectory of Monks-Riſborough in Buckinghamſhire, and to the

the archdeaconry of Oxford. He was likewiſe elected profeſſor of Greek in that univerſity, where he founded in Wadham-college ten ſcholarſhips; five for the ſtudy of the Hebrew, and five for the ſtudy of the Greek language. He died January 20, 1706, and was buried in the chapel of the college, to which he had been a benefactor. He wrote a diſſertation againſt Ariſteas's hiſtory of the ſeventy intrepreters; a diſcourſe of the original text and tranſlations of the Bible; and an account of thoſe learned Grecians, who retired into Italy before and after the taking of Conſtantinople by the Turks.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE took its name from Northampton the county town. It is ſeated in about the middle of England, and extending in a long narrow tract to the north-eaſt, borders on more counties than any other in this part of Britain. On the eaſt it is bounded by Cambridgeſhire, Huntingdonſhire, Bedfordſhire and Buckinghamſhire; on the ſouth by part of Buckinghamſhire and Oxfordſhire; on the weſt by Oxfordſhire and Warwickſhire, and on the north by Leiceſterſhire, Rutlandſhire and Lincolnſhire. Extending in length from the ſouth-weſt to the north-eaſt fifty-five miles, and in the broadeſt part from eaſt to weſt twenty-ſix miles, and is one hundred and twenty-five miles in circumference.

In the time of the Romans this county made a part of the territory inhabited by the Coritani, and under the Saxons it belonged to the kingdom of Mercia. There are Roman remains in ſeveral parts of the county, as camps, foundations of buildings, and Roman urns, coins, and many other antiquities. Likewiſe there are two Roman roads which croſs it, the one where it is broadeſt, and the other where it is narroweſt. The firſt is generally allowed to be Watling-ſtreet, and the other only a vicinal way. However, it muſt have been a road of ſome conſequence, becauſe it branches out into two, before

it

it leaves the county, the one road running north-eaſt, and the other north. The traces of many houſes and villas are to be found upon the military way, that were uſed by the Romans for pleaſure or retirement.

This county is watered by ſeveral rivers, the principal of which are the Nen, the Welland, the Ouſe, the Leam, and the Charwell. The Nen, the Leam and Charwell, have their ſources on one hill, near Coteſby and Herridon, on the ſouth-weſt of Daventry. The Nen, the moſt conſiderable of theſe rivers, runs almoſt due eaſt, till having paſſed the town of Northampton, it by various windings directs its courſe north-eaſt, and traverſing the whole length of the county, ſeparates Cambridgeſhire from Lincolnſhire, and after receiving three large rivulets in its way, called Ire-brook, Harper-brook, and Willow-brook, beſides a multitude of ſmaller ſtreams, falls into a bay of the German ocean, called the Waſhes or Lyn-Deep. The Leam, which directs its courſe weſtward into Warwickſhire, and the Charwell, which flows to the ſouthward into Oxfordſhire, will be deſcribed in thoſe counties. The Welland riſes in the hundred of Rothwell, near a village named Howthorp, on the weſtern borders of this county, and running north-eaſt paſſes by Harborough in Leiceſterſhire, Rockingham in this county, and Stamford, where it begins to be navigable; and from thence paſſes on to Spalding, when having thus divided this county from Leiceſterſhire, Rutlandſhire, and Lincolnſhire, it falls into the Nen to the north-eaſt of Peterborough. The Ouſe riſes near Brackley in this county, and riſes from a ſpring called Ouſe-Well, in the hundred of Sutton, then running north-eaſt through the counties of Buckingham, Bed-

ford, Cambridge and Norfolk, falls into Lyn-Deeps.

Theſe rivers ſupply the county with plenty of freſh water fiſh, ſuch as perch, roach, dace, gudgeons, eels, chubs, and pikes. There are ſome fiſh that are not very common, ſuch as that called the Shallors, found in the river Charwell, the bed-eel in the Nen, as alſo the burbot and the ruff. Now and then there are ſturgeon, ſalmon, ſmelts, and lampreys, that proceed from the ſea, but theſe are not very common.

There are but few medicinal ſprings in this county, one of which is at King's-cliff, eight miles ſouth of Stamford, which both ſmells and taſtes of iron. It will let fall a white ſediment with oil of tartar; and with galls it precipitates a purple ſediment; but turns of an opake red with logwood, and of a deep green with ſyrup of violets. A gallon yields a hundred and forty grains of ſediment, ſeventy-five of which are lime-ſtone and oker, and ſixty-five a calcarious nitre. From various experiments it appears, that this water is of a chalybeate, laxative nature, impregnated with iron and calcarious nitre, with a ſmall quantity of ſea ſalt, and a earthy ſubſtance. It will not purge a ſtrong perſon, unleſs he drinks from three to five quarts; but it has been uſed with great ſucceſs, in diſorders from obſtructions, and in eruptions of the ſkin; it has alſo cured ſeveral lame perſons.

Aſtrop wells have been lately in great eſteem; this mineral water is a briſk, ſpirituous, clear, and well-taſted chalybeate. It lets fall a white ſediment with oil of tartar; and a gallon after evaporation yields ſeventeen grains of ſediment, containing nitre and calcarious earth. Drank at the fountain head, it is a certain cure for all female obſtructions, and in the firſt and ſecond

ſtages

ſtages of conſumptions. It ſeldom fails in the jaundice, and beginning of a dropſy; and it reſtores a conſtitution weakened by hard drinking; the doſe is very large, that is, from three quarts to five in the forenoon. Some affirm it will cure madneſs and melancholy.

In the pariſh of King's-Sutton, four miles ſouth by eaſt of Banbury in Oxfordſhire, is a mineral ſpring, that has an intolerable ſtrong ſmell like rotten eggs; but the taſte is ſaltiſh, warm and pungent, like ſalt of tartar. A gallon yields a hundred and ſixty-ſix grains of ſediment, of which nine are earth, and the reſt ſalt, of a pungent, brackiſh, and bitter taſte, with all the characteriſtics of an alkali. It is a purging water, ſtrongly impregnated with ſulphur, and an alkaline ſalt mixed with ſea-ſalt. It is famous for diſcuſſing and healing of tumours, ulcers, and all diſeaſes of the ſkin.

The new well at Northampton was diſcovered in 1703; it is at a ſmall diſtance from the town, and appears to have been very ſucceſsful in curing the gravel. There are ſeveral other ſprings, that in the Popiſh times had the name of holy wells; but though the waters are exceeding good, they are not famous for any particular virtues.

The air of Northamptonſhire is ſo pure and healthy, that there are here more ſeats of the nobility and gentry than in any other county of the ſame extent in England. There is, however, a ſmall tract of country called Fenland, to the north-eaſt of Peterborough, where there is fenny land, which joins to the great fens of Cambridgeſhire and Lincolnſhire; however, this part is not ſo unwholeſome as formerly, the marſhes and watry grounds having been drained, and in a great meaſure converted into firm land.

There

There are ſeveral ſorts of earths under the ſurface of the ground, which prove to be good manures for poor land, or ſuch as is worn out. Among theſe are the marley earth at Adſton, the clayey earth at Deſborough, the ſlatty clay at Eaſt Farndon, and a ſoft white earth at Chadſtone, and Wood Newton. There are other earths proper for mechanical uſes; as loams of divers ſorts, at Thorp and elſewhere, for bell-founders; penny-earth in many places, which makes floors as hard and laſting as plaſter of Paris; it alſo ſerves to make comb-pots, for the combers of jerſey. There is likewiſe lamb-earth, with which they make earthen floors, at Lilford and other places. There is clay fit to make bricks, at Eaſt-Farndon and Kettering; tobacco-pipe clay in the eaſtern part of Northampton field, and potters earth at Oakely barn. There are yellow and purple okers at Thingdon, and of other kinds near Kettering; as alſo red oker at Clipſton. The pipe clay is accounted as good for medicinal uſes, as the ſealed earth that was formerly brought from the iſlands of the Archipelago. The purple oker at Thingdon is as aſtringent as bole-armoniac; and the white earth of Chadſton is as good as ceruſe for excoriations. They have a great deal of ſtone fit for building and other uſes, in ſeveral places, and lime-ſtone at Eaſton near Stamford, which, when burnt, makes very good lime. Near Calliweſton the inhabitants dig up ſlates for covering houſes. This county alſo produces ſalt-petre. The rag-ſtone is ſo fine, that it is little inferior to marble, and is got out of Welden quarry.

This is a fine ſporting country, and abounds with woods, lawns, fields, meadows, chaſes, parks and gardens. It is in general a champain country, fit both for tillage and paſture, and is fruit-

ful

ful both in corn and graſs; but it having no coal-pits, fuel is ſcarce, few of its rivers being navigable. It is generally ſaid, that wood is very ſcarce in this county, which is ſomewhat ſurprizing, conſidering there are ſuch large foreſts; for Rockingham foreſt is fourteen miles long, and five broad. Sacy foreſt is a mile and a half long, and a mile broad; and Whittlebury foreſt is in ſome places nine miles long, and three broad, though not ſo much in others. Beſides theſe, there is wood in chaſes and parks, and about the towns and villages, and therefore it cannot be ſo exceſſively dear, any where as at Northampton, where travellers always complain of the great price of firing, when they make any ſtay at that town. In ſome places, inſtead of coals and wood, they uſe peat or turf for firing; which is dug up in the fens in the eaſtern part of the county, where it is in ſome places ſix feet deep, and in others ſcarcely one.

The cattle of this county are much the ſame as in other parts, but ſheep are in greater plenty, and yet all the profit they make of their wool is, in general, ſelling it into other counties, where the clothing trade is carried on. The inhabitants have, however, in ſome few places, ſet up woollen manufactories, particularly at Kettering, where they make ſerges, tammies and ſhalloons, whereby many are employed in combing and ſpinning the wool, as well as in weaving and dreſſing the ſtuffs. Sir Matthew Dudley likewiſe, many years ago, ſet up ſuch manufactures at Oundle, to the great advantage of that town and neighbourhood. In this county are alſo made great numbers of boots and ſhoes, many of which are ſent up to London, and exported to our plantations in America.

Among

Among the ſcarce plants that grow wild in Northamptonſhire, are the following.

Common eryngo, *Eryngium vulgare*, J. B. *vulgare et Camerarii*, C. B. Not far from Daventry, by the ſide of the old Roman way called Watling-ſtreet, near a village named Brookhall.

Hollow-leaved gentian, or rather ſopewort, *Gentiana concava*, Ger. *Saponaria concava Anglica*, C. B. This was firſt found in a ſmall grove of a wood, called the Spinney, near Lichbarrow.

Mountain-cudweed, or catsfoot, *Gnaphalium montanum ſive pes cati*, Park. On Bernake heath, not far from Stamford.

Common paſque-flower, *Pulſatilla Anglica purpurea*, Park. parad. *flore clauſo caeruleo*, J. B. On the ſame heath, in great plenty.

Hooded water-milfoil, *Millefolium paluſtre flore luteo galericulato*. In the ditches by the river's ſide, as you go from Peterborough to Thorp.

This county is divided into twenty hundreds, and contains the city of Peterborough, and eleven market towns, viz. Brackley, Daventry, Higham-Ferrers, Kettering, Northampton, Oundle, Rockingham, Thrapſton, Towceſter, and Wellingborough. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Peterborough, and has three hundred and thirty pariſhes. It ſends nine members to parliament, that is, two knights of the ſhire for the county, two citizens for Peterborough, two burgeſſes for Northampton, two for Brackley, and one for Higham-Ferrers.

We ſhall enter this county by the London road, which leads from Newport-Pagnell to Northampton.

NORTHAMPTON, the chief town in the county, to which it gives name, was, according to Camden, ſo called from its northern ſituation on the

the river Nen, upon whoſe banks it is ſeated, and where another river named North Fandon, falls into it on the weſtern ſide of the town: others maintain, that it was anciently called Hamtun in the Saxon annals, and that north was prefixed to it ſoon after the conqueſt, to diſtinguiſh it from Southampton, which was alſo before that time only known by the name of Hamtun. It is ſeated ſixty-ſix miles north-weſt of London, and appears to have been an obſcure place till after the conqueſt; yet it is thought to have been very ancient, though no mention is made of it during the Saxon heptarchy; but Henry of Huntington obſerves, that it was burnt down to the ground by the Danes: yet was ſoon after rebuilt by the aſſiſtance of king Canute; and we find in Domeſday-book, that in the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, there were in this town ſixty burgeſſes, who had as many manſions here. It has ſent members to parliament ever ſince the reign of Edward the Firſt, and as it lies in the heart of the kingdom, ſeveral parliaments have been held there. The barons began their rebellion againſt king Henry the Third in this town, and that prince took it by aſſault. About the end of that reign ſome diſcontented ſcholars retired thither from Oxford and Cambridge, and, with the king's leave, proſecuted their ſtudies, during three years, and formed a college here, ſo that there appeared to be an univerſity in Northampton, till this ſociety was ſuppreſſed, by a ſpecial prohibition, as being injurious to both univerſities.

Leland obſerves, that in his time it was encompaſſed with a wall, and had four gates, named Eaſt, Weſt, North and South Gate; but that the Eaſt Gate was the handſomeſt of them all. It had then a caſtle, which ſtood near the Weſt Gate, and had a large keep. There were alſo

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ſeven pariſh churches within the walls, of which Allhallows was the principal, and ſtood in the heart of the town. In the ſuburbs were two pariſh churches; thus this town had nine churches, beſides St. Catharine's chapel, which ſtood in a church-yard within the walls, and the ruins of a large chapel without the North Gate. Beſides theſe churches, there were here many religious foundations: the priory of St. Andrew for Black friars ſtood in the north part of the town near the North Gate: it was founded in the reign of William the Conqueror, by Simon Seinliz, the firſt earl of Huntingdon, and Maud his wife. Hugh, biſhop of Lincoln, confirmed the churches and tythes given to this priory, and Henry the Firſt, added his royal aſſent to that confirmation, and granted the monks many liberties and franchiſes. This priory, which was for Cluniac monks, had been ſubordinate to the foreign abbey of St. Mary de Caritate, but had been made denizen in the ſixth of Henry the Fourth, and afterwards, at its diſſolution, its revenue was valued by Speed at 334 l. a year; but by Dugdale at 263 l. In the weſt part of the town was an abbey of Black canons dedicated to St. James, built by William Peverell, natural ſon to William the Conqueror, before the year 1112, which was valued at the diſſolution at 175 l. 8 s. 2 d. a year. Within the walls of the town, a little above the South Gate, was an hoſpital dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, for poor and infirm perſons, founded by Walter, archdeacon of Northampton, about the year 1137, and rated at the ſuppreſſion at 25 l. 6 s. 2 d. per annum. The friars minors had hired an habitation in the pariſh of St. Giles in 1224, but afterwards fixed northward of the market place, upon ground given them by the town. This houſe was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 6 l.

17 s.

17 s. 4 d. a year. In the horſe-market was a priory of friars preachers, before the year 1240, to which John Dabington was either a founder, or a conſiderable benefactor, which at the diſſolution was valued at 5 l. 7 s. 10 d. a year. St. Mary's was a priory of Carmelite friars, founded and endowed by Simon Montfort, earl of Leiceſter, in the year 1271: it was ſeated within the walls, and was valued at the diſſolution at 10 l. 10 s. a year. A houſe of Black friars was in the ſtreet where a horſe-market was kept once a week, and was endowed with great privileges: it had but few benefactors, and at the time of the diſſolution was valued only at 5 l a year. In Brigg-ſtreet, near the South Gate, John Longville, in 1322, gave a meſſuage, with the appurtenances, for a chapel and priory of Auguſtine friars. On the ſouth ſide of the town was an hoſpital dedicated to St. Leonard, for a maſter and leprous brethren, before the year 1240. There was alſo a college belonging to the church of All-Saints, which was valued at the diſſolution at 2 l. 13 s. 4 d. a year. An hoſpital, near the Weſt Gate, was founded by the citizens about the year 1450; and without the walls of the town was the abbey de la Pre for Cluniac nuns, founded in the reign of king Stephen, by Simon Seinliz, the ſecond earl of Northampton, and dedicated to St. Mary. At the time of the ſuppreſſion here were ten nuns, when the revenue of the houſe amounted to 119 l. 9 s. 7 d. a year.

The walls, gates, and religious houſes, though ſtanding in the time of Leland, who died in the year 1552, are now entirely demoliſhed; but on the weſt ſide of the town are ſtill to be ſeen the ruins of the caſtle.

On the third of September, 1695, Northampton was burnt town; but was ſoon rebuilt in a regular, and more handſome manner, and is now a very neat agreeable town. Of the above churches only four remain, Allhallows, St. Giles's, St. Sepulchre's, and St. Peter's, the largeſt of which, called Allhallows, or All-Saints, ſtands in the center of the town, at the meeting of four ſpacious ſtreets. It has a dome, and a noble portico, with eight lofty columns of the Ionic order, erected at the expence of king Charles the Second. The top is encompaſſed with a baluſtrade, adorned with vaſes, and a ſtatue of the above prince. Here is the town and county hall, which laſt is a magnificent ſtone building, adorned with columns and pilaſters of the Corinthian order; and the market-place is ſo regular and ſpacious, as to be accounted one of the fineſt in England, the buildings being neat, uniform, and of a conſiderable height. Here are alſo a county jail, three hoſpitals, and an inn, called George-Inn, the building of which coſt 2000 l. and was given by John Dryden, Eſq; towards the endowment of a charity-ſchool, for thirty boys and ten girls. The town has two bridges over the Nen, which has been made navigable for lighters, by which means coals are brought by water to the town. It has a market on Saturdays, which is eſteemed the moſt conſiderable horſe-market in the kingdom; for being ſituated between York and London, it is the rendezvous for the jockies of both places. Its fairs are held on February 20, for horſes, horned cattle and toys; on April 5, May 4, and Auguſt 5, which are all great horſe-fairs; on Auguſt 26, for all ſorts of merchandize; on September 19, chiefly for cheeſe and ſheep; on November 28, and December 19, for all ſorts of cattle. On a neighbouring

bouring down, called Pye-Leys, are frequent horſe-races, and about the town are a great number of cherry-gardens.

Robert Browne, an Engliſh divine, and the founder of the ſect called Browniſts, was deſcended of an ancient and honourable family, and born in the town of Northampton. He had his education in the univerſity of Cambridge, and afterwards became a ſchoolmaſter in the borough of Southwark. In 1580, he began to promulgate his peculiar doctrines, for which he was thrown into priſon; but being a near relation of the lord treaſurer Burleigh, he was ſoon ſet at liberty. He then went over to the Low Countries, and ſettled at Middleburgh in Zealand, where he publiſhed a book, entitled, *A Treatiſe of Reformation without ſtaying for any Man.* Coming back to England about the year 1585, he reſumed his former taſk of propagating his tenets; but being excommunicated by the biſhop of Peterborough, he thought proper to return into the boſom of the church; and even to accept of a benefice in it. Being thrown, for an aſſault upon the conſtable of the pariſh, into Northampton goal, when above eighty years of age, he there ſickened, and died in 1630; declaring, on his death-bed, *that he had been committed to thirty-two priſons, in ſome of which he could not ſee his hand at noon-day.*

James Hervey, the celebrated author of the *Meditations among the Tombs*, was the ſon of a clergyman, and born on the 26th of February, 1714, at Hardingſtone near Northampton. He received his education at the grammar-ſchool of that town, and at Lincoln-college, Oxford. Having finiſhed his ſtudies, and taken the degree of arts, he became curate to his father, who was then poſſeſſed of the living of Weſton-Favell, near Northampton. He afterwards ſerved as curate in two

two other parishes; and upon the death of his father in 1752, he succeeded him in the livings of Weston-Favell and Collingtree. He seemed to be naturally of a delicate constitution, which he weakened still more by his application to his studies; and having been, for some time, afflicted with a cramp and a hectic cough, he was seized with his last illness in December 1758, and expired on Christmas-day of that year, aged forty-four. Besides his *Meditations among the Tombs*, he wrote *Reflections on a Flower Garden*, *a Descant on Creation*, *Contemplations on the Night and Starry Heavens*, *Theron and Aspacia*, &c.

Within about half a mile of the town of Northampton is one of the crosses erected by king Edward the First, in memory of Eleanor his queen, whose corps was rested here, in its way to Westminster; and at a small distance to the north of the cross, several Roman coins have been dug up.

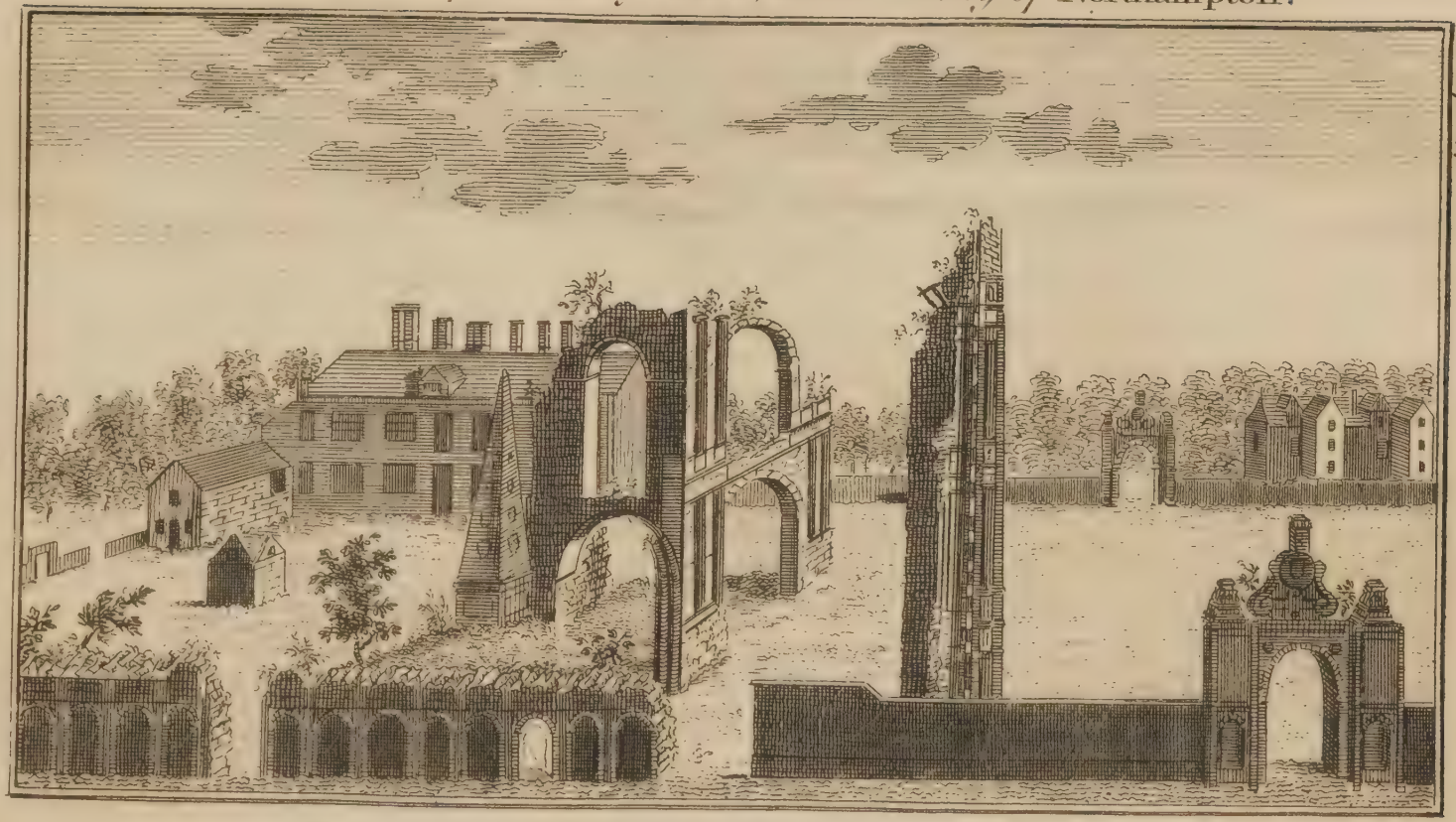
At COGENHOO, about five miles to the eastward of Northampton, have been dug up a Roman urn, covered with a flat stone, containing a mixture of ashes and earth; and in the same field several Roman coins have been found, one of which had a head of Faustina.

At LITTLE BILLING near Northampton, was a Cistercian priory, built by William the Conqueror, and dedicated to St. Augustine, but was only a cell to the priory of St. Andrew at Northampton. Thomas Sorrell gave to this house several gifts, which were confirmed by king Henry the First. In the sixteenth year of Edward the Third, 1322, John de Longavile enlarged this priory; and besides repairing, gave several lands for maintaining the same. It was lately in the possession of William Thursby, Esq;

Five miles to the west of Northampton is ALTHORP, a noble seat, belonging to the family of

the

The South View of Holdenby Palace, *in the County of* Northampton.



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the Spencers. It was built by Robert, earl of Sunderland, in the midſt of a delightful park, laid out and planted after the manner of that at Greenwich. There is here a noble piece of water, in which is a fine Venetian gondola. The houſe is particularly remarkable for a magnificent gallery, furniſhed with curious paintings by the greateſt maſters.

At KINDSTHORP near Northampton, an hoſpital was erected for the reception of pilgrims, and poor indigent and ſickly perſons, by the prior and convent of St. Andrews in Northampton. They were to be under the care of a procurator, two chaplains, and ſix lay-brothers. In this houſe there were two chapels, one dedicated to the Trinity, and the other to St. David. The revenues of this hoſpital were valued at the ſuppreſſion at 32 l. 4 s. 5 d. per annum.

Six miles ſouth-weſt of Northampton is HOLDENBY-PALACE, which was built by Sir Chriſtopher Hatton, lord high chancellor of England, privy counſellor to queen Elizabeth, and knight of the garter. It is ſituated on a pleaſant hill, commanding a delightful proſpect, and called Holdenby Houſe, in remembrance of his great grandmother, heireſs of that ancient family the Holdenbys: but Sir Chriſtopher dying unmarried, left Sir William Newport, knight, his ſiſter's ſon, his heir, who, in default of male iſſue, gave his eſtate to Sir Chriſtopher Hatton, his godſon, and neareſt kinſman; afterwards it became a palace to king Charles the Firſt; and when he was delivered to the parliament, he was three months kept priſoner there. This palace was in the poſſeſſion of her grace the late dutcheſs dowager of Marlborough, and its remains, of which we have given a view, ſhew that it was a very magnificent ſtructure.

At

At Northampton all the principal roads in the county meet. The only towns of any conſideration in this county, to the ſouth of Northampton, are Towceſter and Brackley.

TOWCESTER is ſeated about nine miles to the ſouth of Northampton, and was thought by Camden to be the Tripontium of Antoninus, but ſome later authors place that ſtation at Rugby, and others at Dowbridge. It is, however, certainly built upon the Roman military highway, called Watling-ſtreet, which is viſible in ſeveral places between this town and Stony-Stratford. Moſt antiquaries are of opinion, that it was a Roman ſtation, though not one of thoſe mentioned in the Itenarary; becauſe Roman coins have, at different times, been dug up there. In the Saxon times Towceſter was ſo well fortified, that the Danes were not able to take it. Afterwards, Edward the Elder, ſurrounded it with a ſtone wall, which is now entirely demoliſhed. It probably received its name from the Tove, a ſmall ſtream, which is alſo ſometimes called the Wedon, which almoſt ſurrounds it, and the word ceſter, which ſignifies a fort or town. It is ſixty-one miles north-weſt of London, and ſeven north-weſt of Stony-Stratford, and is a handſome populous town, in the great road from London to Cheſter, on which account it has ſeveral good inns. The inhabitants are employed in making bone-lace. It has a good market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, held on the 12th of May, and the 29th of October, for all ſorts of cattle and merchandize. Here was an hoſpital dedicated to St. Leonard before the year 1240.

Edward Bernard, a learned aſtronomer, linguiſt, and critic, of the ſeventeenth century, was born on the 12th of May, 1638, at Perry St. Paul, commonly called Pauler's Perry, near Towceſter, and

and educated, firſt at Merchant-taylor's-ſchool, London, and afterwards at St. John's college in Oxford, where, in 1673, he was choſen Savilian profeſſor of Aſtronomy upon the reſignation of Sir Chriſtopher Wren. This important place he had not held above three years, when, at the recommendation of the earl of Arlington, he was ſent to France by king Charles the ſecond, in order to be tutor to the dukes of Grafton and Northumberland, natural ſons of that prince by Barbara Villiers, dutcheſs of Cleveland, who then reſided with her children at Paris. Here, however, he did not long continue; for the gravity of his temper not ſuiting the gaiety of the dutcheſs's family, he returned to England in leſs than a twelvemonth. From this time forward he diſcharged his duty as profeſſor till 1691, when being preſented to the rich rectory of Brightwell in Berkſhire, he reſigned his chair in favour of Mr. David Gregory, profeſſor of mathematics at Edinburgh. Towards the latter end of his life he was afflicted with the ſtone; and falling into a conſumption, attended with a dyſentery, he died at Oxford January the 12th, 1697, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He wrote and publiſhed a great number of books in ſeveral branches of learning; particularly in mathematics, aſtronomy, philology, &c.

At East Neston, a little to the north-eaſt of Towceſter, is a villa belonging to the earl of Pomfret. This is a ſtately building, deſigned by Inigo Jones, and is pleaſantly ſeated amidſt plantations of wood, viſtas, and delightful proſpects. On the back front beyond the garden is a large canal, and the meadows through which the river winds its ſtream, lie open to the view of the houſe. Here was a magnificent collection of Greek, Roman, and Egyptian ſtatues of white

marble, being the moſt ornamental part of the Marmora Arondeliana, which were lately preſented by the counteſs dowager of Pomfret, to the univerſity of Oxford. The hall is a fine lofty room, and the great ſtaircaſe is painted in freſco, by Sir James Thornhill.

At WEEDEN PINKNEY, on the weſt ſide of Towceſter, was a Benedictine priory, dedicated to St. Mary, which was a cell to St. Lucian near Beauvois in France, as early as the reign of Henry the Firſt.

CHIPPING-WARDEN, a village ſix miles weſt of Towceſter, is a place of great antiquity, and had formerly a market. The inhabitants have a tradition, that the old town of that name ſtood a quarter of a mile diſtant, at a place, called the Black-ground, and that it was entirely conſumed by fire. But be that as it will, the plough often diſcovers foundations of houſes, and hewn ſtones for building, with pieces of Roman coin. At the north end of the town is a vallum, called Wallow-bank, ſuppoſed to be raiſed againſt a weſtern enemy. It is a rampart of earth, reſembling a high wall, pointing northwards, directly towards Aſton in the wall, but there is now only a ſmall part of it remaining, about twenty-four paces in length. It has a narrow ridge, and on the weſtern ſide is almoſt perpendicular. From the foot to the ridge is nine paces, and there can be no doubt of its having reached as far as Aſton in the wall, which the name plainly ſhews; and that it was a Roman work, appears from its form, and the Roman coins found about it.

Near it is EDGECOTT, or EDGECOTE, a village ſeated upon Dane's-moor, which is a ſpacious valley, in which two bloody battles have been fought; one by a party of the Danes and an army of Saxons, who united to oppoſe their depredations;

ons; the other by the Lancaſtrian party, commanded by Sir John Conyers, and Robert Hillyard, againſt the followers of Edward the Fourth, commanded by William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, when five thouſand of the king's forces were ſlain, and the earl himſelf, together with Sir Richard Herbert his brother, Richard Widville, earl of Rivers, and John his brother, were taken priſoners, and four days after beheaded.

Three miles ſouth of Towceſter is WHITTLEBURY-FOREST, which, according to an accurate ſurvey, is nine miles long and three broad, where wideſt, and is divided by the woodmen into 5 walks; namely, Wakefield, where the duke of Grafton has a houſe, called Wakefield-lodge; Sholebrook, Hazleberry, Shrob, and Hanger-walks; and each of theſe is divided into ſeveral copices. There are alſo two lawns and large paſtures for the deer, which are railed in. Fourteen townſhips were, till lately, allowed a right of common here for their cows and horſes, in the open copices and ridings.

On the borders of this foreſt is POTTERSPERRY, an ancient Saxon town, where in the year 661 a battle was fought between Cornwall, king of the Weſt-Saxons, and Wolfere, king of the Mercians.

Between four and five miles to the eaſt of Towceſter is GRAFTON, a village ſeated on the road which leads from Stony Stratford to Northampton, and remarkable for giving the title of duke to the noble family of Fitzroy.

From Towceſter a road extends upwards of ſeven miles to BRACKLEY, which is ſeated on a place full of brake or fern, whence it is ſuppoſed to have taken its name. It is ſituated fifty-ſeven miles north-weſt of London, and is ſuppoſed to

be the third borough erected in England; it was once famous for its tilts and tournaments, and was alſo formerly a great ſtaple for wool, but that trade is almoſt loſt. It is pleaſantly watered by the ſprings of the river Ouſe, which riſe near the town; it ſends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, ſix aldermen, and twenty-ſix burgeſſes. The mayor is annually choſen by the burgeſſes of the court-leet of the lord of the manor. Here are two pariſh churches, and a free grammar-ſchool. The family of the Zouches built a college here, which, though much decayed, is kept from falling to ruins by Magdalen college in Oxford. It has a market on Wedneſdays, for fat hogs, proviſions, boots and ſhoes; with five fairs, held on the 25th of February, for horſes, cows and ſheep; on the third Saturday in April, for horſes, cows and ſwine; on the Wedneſday after the 22d of June, for horſes and cows; on the Wedneſday before the 10th of October, for horſes, cows, and the hiring of ſervants; and on the 11th of December, for horſes, cows and ſheep. In this town Robert earl of Leiceſter, in the beginning of the twelfth century, gave a piece of ground for building an hoſpital upon it, which was endowed by his ſon Robert, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

At AYNO, or ANO, a village about four miles ſouth-weſt of Brackley, on the borders of Oxfordſhire, was an hoſpital, dedicated to St. John and St. James, founded in the reign of Henry the Second, and united to Magdalen college in Oxford in the year 1484.

We ſhall now return back to Northampton, from which a road extends north-weſt to Banbury in Oxfordſhire.

At two miles to the ſouth-eaſt of this road, and at ten miles ſouth-weſt of Northampton, is ASH-

BY-

BY-CANON, where was a priory of Black canons, of the order of St. Auguſtine, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary before the reign of king John. It is uncertain by whom it was founded, but at the time of the diſſolution it had thirteen religious, and its revenue was valued at 119 l. by Dugdale; but at 128 l. by Speed.

From Northampton a road extends nine miles weſt to DAVENTRY, or DAINTRY, which is ſituated ſeventy-three miles north-weſt of London, and being a great thoroughfare from Towceſter to Coventry, has many good inns, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, a ſteward, and twelve freemen. Here is a charity-ſchool, and near the town is a courſe for horſe-races. It is ſeated on the ſide of Borough-hill, which is thus called from a very large ancient fortification, from whence is a proſpect of all the country round. On the eaſt ſide is a military mount, called by the inhabitants Spelwel, which incloſes within a bank two hundred acres of land, and is reckoned about three miles in compaſs; and in the breaches of the trenches, Roman coins have ſometimes been found. Below this encampment, on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the hill, is a ſmaller camp, ſurrounded with a ſingle trench, with a bank of earth on the inſide. To the ſouth, about a quarter of a mile below the rampart, is a place, called by the neighbouring inhabitants Burnt-walls, where many loads of ſtone have been dug up and carried away. This camp is generally allowed to be a Roman ſtation, and the Bennavenna of the Romans, and was afterwards made uſe of by the Saxons. Daventry has a market on Wedneſdays, and five fairs, held on Eaſter-Tueſday, for horſes and horned cattle; on the 6th of June, for ſwine, and all ſorts of goods; on the third of Auguſt, for horned cattle, horſes and ſheep; on the 2d of October, for

cattle, cheeſe, onions, &c. and on the 27th of October, chiefly for ſheep; this laſt is called Ramfair. This town had a priory, which was firſt founded at Preſton by Hugh de Leiceſter (called the viſcount) but that place being found inconvenient, it was by licenſe from Simon de St. Liz the Elder, earl of Northampton, removed to this place, and a monaſtery built to the honour of St. Auguſtine; he alſo endowed it with theſe ſeveral churches all in the ſame county (viz.) Foxton, Lubenho, Scalford, Guthmundley, Bitleſbroc, and Braybroc; many were benefactors to this houſe, as Maud de St. Liz, Richard de Foxton, Stephen de Welton, and Henry de Braybroc. The revenue belonging to this priory now belongs to Chriſt-church college in Oxford. Its annual value at the diſſolution, according to Speed, was 236l. 7 s.

John Wilkins, a learned and ingenious prelate in the ſeventeenth century, was born in the year 1614, at Daventry, and educated at Magdalen-hall, Oxford. Having finiſhed his ſtudies, and taken holy orders, he became chaplain, firſt to the lord viſcount Say and Seale, then to George lord Berkeley, and, laſt of all, to Charles count palatine of the Rhine, during the reſidence of that prince in England. It was his profound knowledge in mathematical learning that recommended him chiefly to this laſt poſt; his electoral highneſs being a great lover of the mathematics, and a generous patron of all who excelled in them. In 1638 Mr. Wilkins commenced author, by publiſhing a book, intitled, *A Diſcovery of a new World; or a Diſcourſe tending to prove, that it is probable there may be another habitable World in the Moon: with a Diſcourſe concerning the poſſibility of a paſſage thither.* This paſſage he propoſed to effect by means of a *flying-chariot*; not conſidering, that,

at

at a certain height, there is no air to ſupport any thing. In 1640 he favoured the public with a *Diſcourſe concerning a New Planet*; *tending to prove, that it is probable our Earth is one of the Planets*; and this was followed, the enſuing year, with a third piece, intitled, *Mercury*; *or the ſecret and ſwift Meſſenger: ſhewing, how a man may, with privacy and ſpeed, communicate his thoughts to a friend at any diſtance.* This ſcheme he propoſed to accompliſh by means of ſignals and other contrivances. During the time of the civil war he adhered to the parliament, but acted, through that whole period, with uncommon lenity and moderation; employing his time partly in the diſcharge of his eccleſiaſtical function (for he had now obtained ſome preferments) partly in applying to his philoſophical ſtudies, and eſtabliſhing thoſe private meetings of learned men, which afterwards gave birth to the Royal Society: after the reſtoration of king Charles he was ejected from the maſterſhip of Trinity college, Cambridge, to which he had been preſented by Richard Cromwell; but though his promotion was ſtrongly oppoſed by archbiſhop Sheldon and others, yet was he, in a very little time, appointed preacher to the ſociety of Gray's-Inn, rector of St. Lawrence-Jewry, dean of Rippon; and in 1668, was advanced to the ſee of Cheſter. Upon the firſt inſtitution of the Royal Society in 1663, he was nominated one of their council, and in 1668 he publiſhed his *Eſſay towards a Real Character and a Philoſophical Language.* He died November the 19th, 1672, and was buried in the church of St. Lawrence Jewry. Beſides the works above-mentioned, he wrote ſeveral other tracts. His *Principles and Duties of Natural Religion*, and a volume of his *Sermons*, were publiſhed after his death, by Dr. Tillotſon.

At CATESBY, a village three miles to the ſouthward of Daventry, Robert, the ſon of Philip de Eſſeby, built a priory of Benedictine nuns, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edmund, which, at the diſſolution, had ten nuns; when the annual revenues of this priory amounted, according to Dugdale, to 132 l. 10s. 11d. but according to Speed, to above 145 l.

LYLBORN, ſeven miles north of Daventry, is generally ſuppoſed to have been a Roman ſtation, from its ſituation on the Watling-ſtreet, and the Roman pavements, trenches, ruins of walls and houſes, and military mounts of various dimenſions there, or at a ſmall diſtance, more eſpecially from the traces of a fort at a mount, called the Round hill.

In a field near WHITTON, about four miles ſouth-eaſt of Daventry, old foundations of houſes have been dug up, with a great number of Roman coins, which the people here call Danes-money. Near the town runs the Roman road, called Watling-ſtreet.

WEDON, or WEEDON IN THE STREET, a village four miles ſouth-eaſt of Daventry, ſeated on the river Nen, which here is but narrow. It was once the royal ſeat of Wolfher, king of the Mercians, but his daughter Werburgha, in the year 630, converted the palace into a convent. Soon after the conqueſt, Roger de Thebovil having given a moiety of the manor of this town to the convent of Bec in Normandy, here was likewiſe erected an alien priory, which was given by king Henry the Sixth as part of the endowment of Eton college. Camden would have this town to be the Bennavenna of Antoninus, becauſe the diſtance from other ſtations exactly agree. Likewiſe a military way goes directly northward from this place; but the cauſeway in many parts is broken

ken and worn away. It is called Wedon in the Street, from its being ſeated on the Roman road, called Watling-ſtreet, which moſtly appears with a high ridge, as far as Dowbridge near Lilborn. Dr. Stukeley calls it Benavona, and affirms, that is the true name. The old town, according to him, ſeems to have been in two paſtures weſt of the road, and ſouth of the church, called Upper Aſh Cloſe, and Nether Aſh Cloſe, in which may be ſeen the traces of the ditch, and rampart that ſurrounded it, and many marks of great foundations. About the chapel of St. Werburg juſt mentioned, has been dug up abundance of very fine ſtone, and many Roman coins. Wedon now conſiſts of two pariſhes, and has been a market town; there is a large Roman camp, about a mile to the ſouth, and as much from Watling-ſtreet, called Caſtle-Dykes; which Dr. Stukeley ſays, was probably one of thoſe made by Publius Auſtorius Scapula, propretor under Claudius. It takes up near eleven acres of ground, and on the higheſt part has been found the ruins of a fortreſs. In ſearching among the ſtones two rooms were diſcovered, of which one had ſtone walls and an arched roof, but from the other, it is ſaid, iſſued a ſtench like that of putrified carcaſſes, which prevented any farther examination. Roman coins and pavements have alſo been found here.

At WOODFORD, a village about three miles ſouth-eaſt of Weedon in the Street, and four miles to the weſt of the road which leads from Towceſter to Daventry, there have been found evident tokens of Roman buildings, and ſome years ago a Roman urn was turned up by a plough.

The manor of EVERTON, near Weedon, was, before the year 1217, given to the abbey of Bernay in Normandy; and here was for ſome time an alien priory.

We ſhall now return back to Northampton, and taking the road which leads north-weſt to Harborough in Leiceſterſhire, ſhall proceed ſeven miles in that road to BRICKSWORTH, or BRIXWORTH, which is a ſmall village, a quarter of a mile in length, and has a fair on Whitſun-Monday, for all ſorts of cloth, hardware and toys.

A little to the north-weſt of Brickſworth is NASEBY, where a bloody battle was fought, in the reign of king Charles the Firſt, between the royaliſts and parliamentarians, upon a fine plain, on which are ſtill viſible the marks of ſeveral great holes in which the ſlain were interred.

About a mile to the north-weſt of Naſeby is SULBY, where William de Wodeville, in 1155, founded an abbey of the Premonſtratenſian order, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It had ſeveral other benefactors, and was valued at the diſſolution at 258 l. 8 s. 5 d. per annum by Dugdale; and at upwards of 305 l. by Speed.

KEYLAND in the pariſh of Cotteſbrook, two miles ſouth-eaſt of Naſeby, was given to the above abbot and convent, by William Boutevillein; and here was erected a cell of Premonſtratenſian canons, dedicated to St. John.

About five miles weſt of Brickſworth is GUILESBOROUGH, or GUILDSBOROUGH, a village ſeated on a high hill, from whence is an extenſive proſpect every way. Here is a large fortification in the form of a Roman camp, of an oblong ſquare, and the two ſhorteſt ſides are north and ſouth. It is ſeated on the Roman road, called Watling-ſtreet.

There are two roads leading from Northampton to the moſt northern parts of the county, and we ſhall firſt trace that which lies to Stamford. Twelve miles to the north of Northampton is KETTERING, which is ſeated on an aſcent, by a ſmall

ſmall river that runs into the Nen, at the diſtance of ſeventy-three miles north-weſt of London. It is a pretty large populous town, in which is a ſeſſions-houſe for the juſtices of peace for the county, a ſmall hoſpital, and a charity-ſchool for twenty girls. The woollen manufactory was introduced here in the laſt century by Mr. Jordan, and two thouſand hands are ſaid to be employed in making ſhalloons, tammies, and ſerges; and the town carries on a conſiderable trade. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the Thurſday before St. Thomas's day, the Thurſday before Eaſter, and the Thurſday before the 10th of October, for horſes and horned catttle, ſheep, hogs and pedlary.

Two miles north-eaſt of Kettering is BOUGHTON, a village that has a fair on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of June, for timber, poles, ladders, braziery, turnery, china, and great quantities of hats, ſtockings, and ready-made cloaths. Here is the noble ſeat built by the firſt duke of Montague, after the model of the palace of Verſailles. The cieling of the hall is admirably painted with the convocation of the gods, and the cielings, and ſtair-caſes, of many other rooms are finely painted, and richly adorned with pictures done by the great maſters. The gardens, which contain 90 acres, are embelliſhed with ſtatues, flower-pots, vaſes of marble and metal, a variety of fountains, large baſons of water, fiſh-ponds, canals, wilderneſſes, terraces, a fine caſcade, and a river, which running through the whole length of the gardens, add greatly to their beauty. The park is walled round, well planted with trees, and kept in excellent order.

Between two and three miles to the north-weſt of Kettering is ROTHWELL, or ROWELL, which

ſtands on the ſide of a rocky hill, whence it is plentifully ſupplied with ſprings of pure water. It is a pretty good town, and was a conſiderable place in the reign of William the Conqueror. It has a fine market-houſe, which is a ſquare ſtone building, adorned with the arms of moſt of the nobility and gentry of the county, carved under the cornice, on the out-ſide: but the market, which is on Mondays, is almoſt come to nothing, on account of its nearneſs to Kettering. Here was a ſmall priory for three or four nuns, dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, which was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 5 l. 19 s. 8 d. per annnm; and it has a fair, which begins on Trinity-Monday, and laſts all the week, for horſes, horned cattle and pedlary; and the laſt day alſo for leather.

At PIPWELL, or PIPEWELL, a village two miles north weſt of Rothwell, William de Boutevylein founded, in the year 1143, an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the revenues of which were valued at the ſuppreſſion at 286 l. 11 s. 8 d. a year by Dugdale; but at 347 l. by Speed.

At the diſtance of three miles and a half to the weſtward of Rothwell is OXENDON, which is remarkable for the ſquare tower of the church, having an echo, which is ſaid to repeat twelve or thirteen ſyllables very diſtinctly.

At DINGLEY, a village a little above two miles to the weſtward of Pipewell, was a preceptory belonging to the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, which at the diſſolution was endowed with lands worth 108 l. 13 s. 5 d. a year.

SIBBERTOST is a village eight miles weſt of Rothwell, and four ſouth-weſt of Harborough, is taken notice of, on account of the ſprings of the river Welland, which are at the ponds of the vicarage-

vicarage-houſe here. On the north-eaſt ſide of the village is a piece of ground, called the Caſtle-yard, in the lower part of which there is an eminence, and upon it a round raiſed mount, intrenched on the ſouth ſide, with a natural precipice on the other ſides. Below the mount ſouthward is a ſemi-circular bank, encompaſſed with a trench, and an area of half an acre. It is thought the deſign of this fortreſs was to hinder the inroads of the Danes from the north.

FARNDON is a village about two miles north-eaſt of Sibbertoft, and on the top of a hill, in this place, ſtood a caſtle or bulwark againſt the Danes; but there is nothing now remaining only two military trenches.

In this part of the county, near the head of the Velland, there are ſeveral mounts, now called Moot-hills, and one of theſe is near Farndon. Some think the people met here to conſult, and to give warning to the country all round, to be on their guard againſt an approaching enemy.

From Kettering a road extends about ten miles north-weſt to ROCKINGHAM, which is a town ſeated on the river Welland on the northern borders of the county, at the diſtance of eighty-three miles north by weſt of London. It is famous for its caſtle and foreſt. The latter extended over all the large tract of land between the rivers Welland and Nen, which, in the times of barbariſm, was inhabited by the Britons; but when the Romans became maſters of theſe parts, they cut down a great number of the trees, and converted the land into tillage and paſture. The Saxons ſet up iron works here, on account of the plenty of timber, which ſoon helped to deſtroy moſt of what remained, and the refuſe of the iron-ore is ſtill found in the fields. The extent of Rockingham foreſt, according to a ſurvey taken in the

year

year 1641, was fourteen miles in length, and five in breadth, but it is now broken into ſmall parts, and divided into three bailiwicks. In ſeveral of its woods, a great quantity of charcoal is made, and every year, many waggon loads of it are ſent to Peterborough. The caſtle was built by William the Conqueror, and put under the command of Odo, earl of Champagne and Albemarle. It was ſeated upon the ſide of a hill in a woody foreſt, and was fortified with ramparts, bulwarks, and a double range of battlements, but it ſtill remained in the diſpoſal of the crown; and in the following reign, the foreſt, being ſtocked with deer, was put under the care of the governor of the caſtle. The town was built a conſiderable time after the caſtle; this was about the reign of king John, who gave the manor and caſtle to his ſon Richard earl of Cornwall. King Charles the Firſt, in the year 1621, created Sir Lewis Watſon baron of Rockingham; but it now gives the title of marquis to the noble family of Wentworth. Of this caſtle we have given a view. The town has a charity-ſchool for twelve boys, and a market on Thurſdays, with a fair on the 25th of September, for horſes, cows, ſheep, hogs, pewter, hats and cloth.

Two miles north of Rockingham is HARRINGWORTH, which was once the ſeat of the family of the Zouches, who flouriſhed in the reign of king James the Firſt, but their eſtate has been ſold, the ſeat pulled down, and the chapel, which belonged to the houſe, and contained the monuments of the family, is now in ruins.

Eight miles to the northward of Kettering, and four to the eaſt of Rockingham is WELDON, a town that has a handſome market-houſe, with a ſeſſions chamber over it built with ſtone, but has nothing elſe worthy of notice. There is here a

market

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The East View of Rockingham Caſtle, *in the County of* Northampton.

market on Thurſdays, and four fairs, which are held on the 19th of February, the 21ſt of May, the 20th of Auguſt, and the 17th of September, for braſs, pewter, hats, linen and woollen cloth.

Two miles north of Weldon is DEAN, a village that had an ancient priory before the conqueſt, which was a cell to Weſtminſter abbey, and was ſuppreſſed ſoon after the conqueſt.

Three miles ſouth by eaſt of Weldon is BRIGSTOCK, a village that has three fairs, held on the 6th of May, for horſes and horned cattle; on the 5th of September, for ſheep, braſs and pewter; and on the 22d of November, for hats, ſhoes, boots and pedlary.

Six miles to the northward of Weldon is KINGS-CLIFF, a town ſeated near a rivulet called Willoughbrook. It has a market on Tueſdays, and a fair on the 29th of October, for cheeſe, home-ſpun linen, and turners ware.

About a mile and a half weſt of Kings-Cliff is FINSHED priory, which was founded for canons regular of the order of St. Auguſtine, by Richard Engain, lord Brotherwick, in the reign of Henry the Second, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its lands and poſſeſſions were valued at the diſſolution at 56 l. 10 s. 11 d. per annum.

Six miles to the northward of Kings-Cliff is STAMFORD, of which we have given a particular account in Lincolnſhire; the greateſt part of that populous town being ſeated in that county, on the north ſide of the Welland; but as there is a hamlet on the ſouth ſide of that river, it ought to be mentioned in this place. It conſiſts of a long ſtreet, deſcending to the great bridge over the river. The ground is ſtony and naturally paved; the houſes are uniform, though built at ſeveral times for inn-keepers and tradeſmen; they have moſt of them ſtone walls, and are covered with ſlate. The

George

George inn has been eſteemed one of the fineſt in England, with reſpect to the number of handſome rooms. In the year 922 king Edward erected a fort on the ſouth ſide of the Welland, the ground plot of which is ſtill viſible. On the ſouth-eaſt ſide of Stamford, William de Watervile, abbot of Peterborough, in the reign of king Henry the Second, erected a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Michael. This houſe was ſubordinate to the abbey of Peterborough, and at the ſuppreſſion of religious houſes, its revenues amounted to 65 l. 19 s. 9 d. a year: and on the ſouth ſide of Stamford bridge, ſtood an ancient free chapel or hoſpital, dedicated to St. John, and St Thomas the Martyr, conſiſting of a maſter and brethren, founded about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second.

A little to the eaſtward of Stamford is BURLEIGH houſe, erected by the lord Burleigh, lord high treaſurer to queen Elizabeth. This houſe is a noble ſtructure, though the architecture is ancient: it is built entirely of free-ſtone, and by which way ſoever you approach it, its lofty towers and pinnacles reſemble ſo many pariſh churches in a great town. The houſe is ſeated on an eminence, and has a proſpect for upwards of thirty miles into the fens of Lincolnſhire. On aſcending the hill you come to a fine eſplanade before the great gate, where is a handſome ſemicircle taken in by an iron baluſtrade. The front has a grand appearance, and from the above ſemicircle you aſcend a few ſteps to a noble hall, adorned with very fine paintings, particularly a picture of Seneca bleeding to death, for which it is ſaid the king of France offered the earl ſix thouſand piſtoles. The cielings of all the fine apartments, the chapel, and the late earl's cloſet, are painted

by

by Varrio, whom the earl kept twelve years in his family.

Twelve miles ſouth-eaſt of Stamford is the city of PETERBOROUGH, which is ſeated on the river Nen, ſeventy-ſix miles north by weſt of London, but is reckoned the leaſt city, and pooreſt biſhopric in England. It received its name from its antient monaſtery dedicated to St. Peter. We are told by ancient writers, that in the river Nen, formerly called Avon, was a gulph of prodigious depth, named Medeſwell, near which was a town, named Medeſwell-Hampſtead, or Medes-Hampſtead. This was ſaid to have been ſeated in a very fine ſpot, having on one ſide a meer of excellent water, and on the other, many woods, meadows and paſtures. Peada, the ſon of Penda, the firſt king of the Mercians, was ſo pleaſed with the place, that he determined to found a monaſtery here, and accordingly began it in the year 655, but he dying, or, as ſome ſay, his wife cauſing him to be murdered, his two brothers Wolfere and Ethelred, and his ſiſters, Kinneburga and Kinneſwitha, finiſhed and endowed it. After this the monaſtery flouriſhed about 200 years, and was encompaſſed with a wall, which was carried round the town by one of the abbots. However, when the Pagan Danes invaded this iſland, and pillaged all the places wherever they came, Peterborough was deſtroyed among the reſt in 870. In that year the abbot of Crowland in Lincolnſhire, and his monks, flying to this monaſtery for protection, were overtaken by thoſe invaders, and murdered in a court of the abbey, called the Monks churchyard, from their being all buried in it; and their effigies are ſtill to be ſeen upon a tomb-ſtone erected over their common grave. The abbey after this lay neglected about a hundred years, till Ethelwold, biſhop of Wincheſter, aſſiſted by king Edgar,

Edgar, and Adulf his chancellor, rebuilt it in a more magnificent manner; and having ſpent his whole fortune upon it, was made the firſt abbot. He then cut down the woods, built manor houſes and granges, and let the lands out at certain rents, by which means it ſoon became filled with inhabitants, while the monaſtery obtained large revenues and great privileges. The abbots were called to parliament in the reign of Henry the Third, and had the honour of the mitre in the year 1400. At the time of the diſſolution, it had about forty monks of the Benedictine order, when the revenues of the abbey were valued by Dugdale, at 1721 l. a year; and by Speed, at 1972 l. King Henry the Eighth converted it into a biſhopric, and the monaſtery church into a cathedral, which, beſides the biſhop, dean, and ſix prebendaries, has eight petty canons, four ſtudents in divinity, one epiſtler, one goſpeller, a ſub-dean, ſub-treaſurer, and chanter, eight choriſters, eight ſinging-men, two chancellors, a ſchoolmaſter, uſher, and twenty ſcholars, a ſteward, organiſt, and other inferior officers. This ſtructure is four hundred and ſeventy-nine feet in length, and two hundred and three broad in the tranſept from north to ſouth, and the breadth of the nave and ſide iſles is ninety-one feet. The weſtern front, which is a hundred and fifty-ſix feet broad, is a noble piece of Gothic architecture, ſupported by three lofty arches, curiouſly adorned with pillars, and a variety of imagery. The windows of the cloyſters are finely ſtained with ſcripture hiſtories, the figures of the founder of the monaſtery, and the ſucceſſion of abbots. St. Mary's chapel is large, and curiouſly adorned with carved work, and the choir makes a noble appearance. This church was, however, greatly defaced in the civil wars, and deprived of many of its ornaments. Among

other

other of its monuments, here is one of queen Catharine, who was divorced by king Henry the Eighth, and another of Mary, queen of Scots, both of whom were buried in this cathedral; tho' the body of the queen of Scots is ſaid to have been removed to Weſtminſter-abbey, by her ſon James the Firſt. Here is alſo the monument of a ſexton named Scarlet, who, according to his epitaph, died at the age of ninety-five, after having buried both the above queens, and two ſucceſſive generations of all the houſe-keepers in the town.

Though Peterborough is ancient, it is not very large, it having no more than one church, beſides the cathedral. The houſes, however, are well built, and the ſtreets are regular, with a handſome market-place, in which is a good market-houſe, where the aſſizes and ſeſſions for the hundred are kept. The city has a wooden bridge over the river Nen; but the air, on account of the neighbouring fens, is not eſteemed very healthy; however, the water of the river is freſh and good, the higheſt ſpring-tide never coming up within five miles of the town, which is plentifully ſupplied with water by excellent ſprings. It is governed by a mayor, aldermen, and a recorder, according to a charter granted by king Henry the Eighth, and ſends two members to parliament. The juriſdiction of the city extends over thirty-two towns and hamlets, in which the civil magiſtrates, appointed by the royal commiſſion, are veſted with the ſame power as the judges of aſſize, and hold their quarterly ſeſſions in the city. There are two charity ſchools, one founded and endowed by Mr. Thomas Deacon of this city, for twenty boys, who, after being taught to read and write, are put out apprentices; and another for teaching forty poor girls to ſpin and read, the charge

charge of their education being chiefly defrayed by their labour. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, held on the 10th of July, and the 2d of October, for horſes, ſtock of all ſorts, and wrought timber. The trade of this city is not very conſiderable, tho' the river Nens made navigable to it by barges, in which coals and other commodities are imported, and from hence malt, cloth, ſtockings, and other woollen manufactures, in which the poor are employed, are exported. This city gives the title of earl to the noble family of Mordaunt.

Beſides the abbey above-mentioned, it appears that there was here a ſpital, or hoſpital, for leprous perſons, dependant on the abbey, ſo early as in the reign of king Stephen; and that Benedict, abbot of Peterborough, about the year 1180, founded an hoſpital at the gate of the abbey, dedicated to St. Thomas Becket.

Near Peterborough is CAERDYKE, or as it is commonly called Cordyke, an ancient trench of the Romans, made for draining the fens, and facilitating commerce in theſe parts, its dimenſions being ſufficient to render it navigable.

At PEAKIRK, near ſix miles north-weſt of Peterborough, St. Pega ſettled herſelf in a cell, which was afterwards improved into a monaſtery dedicated to the Trinity, and endowed by Edmund Athelling: but it ſuffered much from the Danes in 870, and was deſtroyed in 1013.

About four miles to the weſt of Peterborough is CASTOR, a village ſeated about half a mile north of the river Nen; ſuppoſed by ſome to be part of the Roman city called Durobrivae, and by the Saxons Dormanceſter, to which Horſley aſſents; but he thinks it ſtood rather nearer the river, than the preſent Caſtor, and on the north ſide. He owns the fortified ground on the ſouth

ſide

ſide of the river near Cheſterton is very remarkable; and acknowledges the elevated military way, may be traced through it; and alſo, that it is very viſible, before it enters, and after it has paſſed it. The ancient town near Caſtor is called Dornford, by Camden, and in ſome of our maps. The country people are quite ſtrangers to this circumſtance, and yet they ſtill call the coins that are found here Dormans, and the way Normangate. They have found chequered pavements here, and in the adjoining fields, large quantities of Roman coins have been dug up; as alſo antique earthen veſſels, ſtones of foundations and ruined walls. The Roman highway that paſſes by it is called Ermine-ſtreet, which ſoon after divides into two, and the cauſeways are ſtill to be ſeen. The one is called the Forty-foot way, which begins at Peterborough, and paſſes by Burleigh park wall, to Stamford; and the other Long-ditch, or High-ſtreet, by Lolham Bridges, a place thought to be of great antiquity, for there are ſtill eleven arches to be ſeen, though they are in a very ruinous condition. There is alſo a way called the Lady Conyborough's way, corruptly for Kineburgha's way; which appears to be nothing but a Roman paved way, leading from a fortreſs, on the other ſide of the river Nen, to the caſtle, or principal fort upon the hill, where the church now ſtands, and which is ſuppoſed to have been the reſidence of the Roman governor. It is obſervable, that every where, near the fenny country, great precaution and ſtrength were employed, probably to prevent the incurſions of the Britons. Dr. Stukeley met with a piece of the foundation of the wall of the Roman Caſtrum, in the ſtreet by the north-weſt corner of the church. He adds, that this Caſtrum went round the churchyard, and took in the whole top of the hill, facing

ing the ſouth. Underneath it lay the city; and below the church-yard, the ground is full of foundations and Moſaic pavements. At Ford-green, ſuch pavements are often found, with earthen pipes, bricks, and all ſorts of antiquities; and in that field there is a tract, running quite through, whereon corn grows very poorly; which is owing to a ſtreet or road, layed deep with a bed of gravel. The common people pretend, that the lady Kineburgha curſed it. This lady they ſay was an abbeſs, who built a religious houſe here, eaſtward of the church, ſome part of which ſtill remains. The church here is very ancient, though newly modelled, and the tower is a fine piece of ancient architecture, with ſemicircular arches; but the ſpire ſeems to be of later date. The ſquare well by the porch is certainly Roman, and though it ſtands on a high hill, yet the water is very high, and at the eaſt end of the church, there is a very old croſs. On a hill, upon which a church now ſtands, was anciently a caſtle, the ſeat of the Roman governor.

On entering the road, which lies to the weſt of Caſtor, we proceed ſouthward to FOTHERINGAY, a village encompaſſed on every ſide with pleaſant meadows, and has a fair on the third Monday after old Midſummer-day, for horſes. Here was anciently a convent, the nuns of which were tranſlated to De la Pre near Northampton. King Henry the Fourth, in the year 1411, began in this town a noble college, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints, for a maſter, twelve chaplains or fellows, eight clerks, and thirteen choriſters, which, at the diſſolution, had lands of the yearly value of 499l. 15s. 9d. In this town was alſo a very ancient caſtle, which was in the poſſeſſion of the earls of Cheſter, in the reign of Henry the Third; after which it paſſed through

ſeveral

ſeveral hands, and was rebuilt by Edmund of Langley, duke of York, the ſon of king Edward the Third. In this caſtle, Mary queen of Scots was confined, and at laſt beheaded.

Two miles ſouth of Fotheringay is OUNDLE, which is ſuppoſed to be a corruption of Avendale, and to have been ſo called from its being ſeated in a low vale or valley, by the river Nen, formerly called the Avon, which almoſt encompaſſes it. It is ſixty-five miles north by weſt of London, fourteen ſouth by weſt of Peterborough, and ten to the ſouth-eaſtward of Stamford. It is neatly and uniformly built, and has two good ſtone bridges over the Nen, one of which, called the North bridge, is remarkable for the number of its arches, and a fine cauſeway leading to it. Here is a handſome church, a free-ſchool, and an alms houſe, the two laſt founded and endowed in the year 1544, by Sir William Laxton, lord mayor of London, and ſupported by the grocer's company of that city; another alms-houſe built by one Nicholas Latham, a charity-ſchool for thirty boys, and another for twelve girls. This town has a good market on Saturdays, for cattle, corn, fleſh and fowl, and alſo three fairs, held on the 25th of February, Whitſon-Monday, and the 21ſt of Auguſt, for horſes, ſheep, and a few cows.

At OUNDLE, was a monaſtery before the year 711, generally thought to have been founded by Wilfrid, archbiſhop of York, which afterwards became a cell to the abbey of Peterborough; and in the church-yard was formerly an alms-houſe founded in the year 1485.

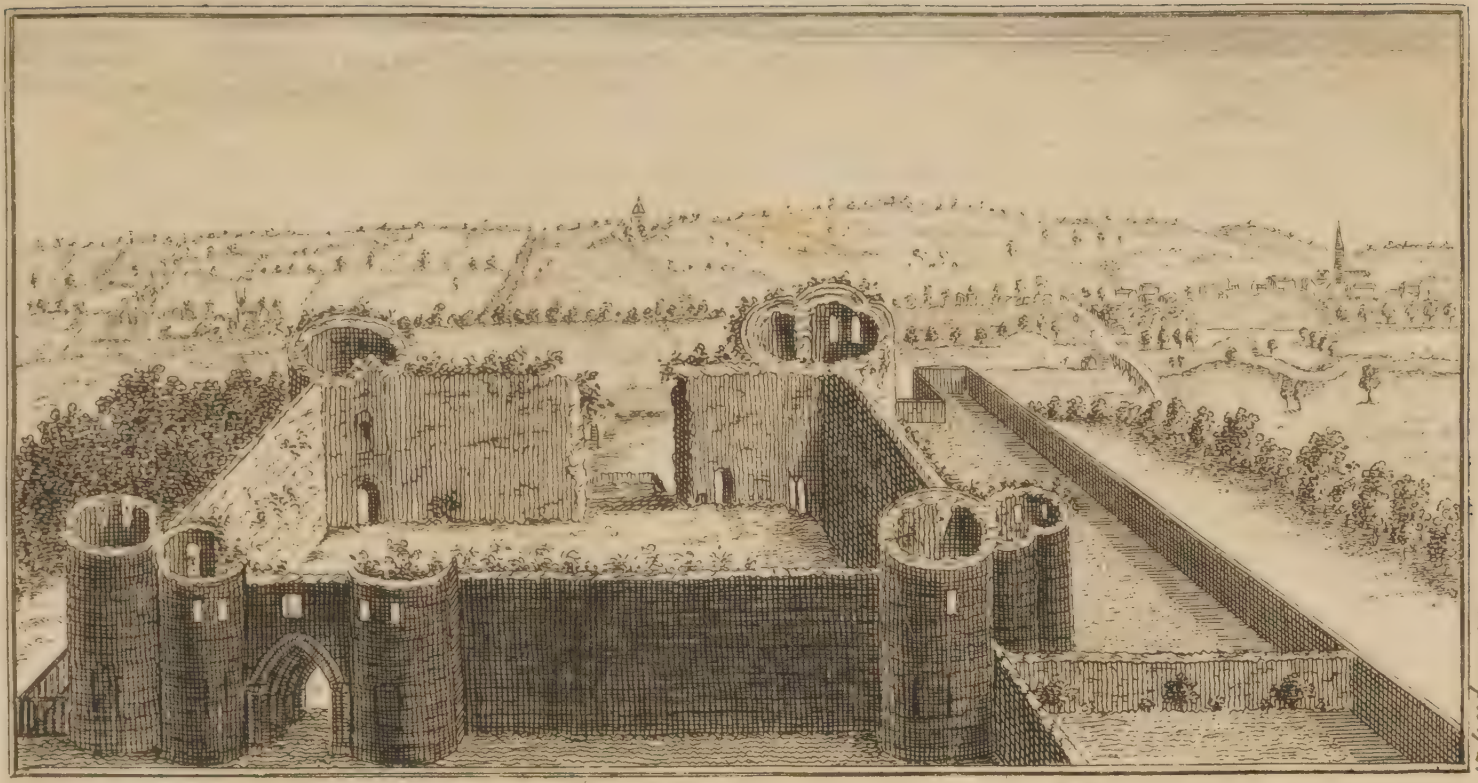
BARNWELL CASTLE near Oundle, was built by Reginald de Morgne, in the reign of Henry the Firſt, and in the year 1132. It was afterwards ſold in the reign of Edward the Firſt, together

gether with the manor of Barnwell St. Andrew, to William, the abbot of Ramsey, in the county of Huntingdon, and to that abbey it belonged till the general suppression, when Sir Edward Montagu, lord chief justice of the King's bench, purchased it of that king, and repaired and beautified it. From him it descended to his grace the duke of Montagu. But it is in a great measure demolished, though the lower part of the walls is still standing, as the reader will see from the view we have here given of it.

At WOLTHROP, a village not far from Oundle, there appears to have been a small Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Mary, as early as the reign of king Henry the First.

The road from Oundle extends seven miles south to THRAPSTON, which was originally called Thorpston, and is seated sixty-five miles from London, in a pleasant valley, upon the east bank of the river Nen, over which it has a handsome bridge. The river Nen was made navigable to this town, by act of parliament, and boats came up to it for the first time in November 1737, by which means coals are sold here cheaper than in London. The air, soil, and water of this place, are so good, that few towns afford a more eligible retreat for those who choose a country life. It has a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the first Tuesday in May, for sheep, horned cattle, &c. and merchandize; and on July 5, for pedlary, shoes, hiring harvest-men, &c.

To the north-west of Thrapston is DRAYTON house, which was formerly a castle, and descended to Henry Green, a gentleman of great wealth, in the reign of king Henry the Sixth. His only daughter Constance, by marrying John Stafford, earl of Wiltshire, brought this house and manor into that family; but on the decease of Edward her



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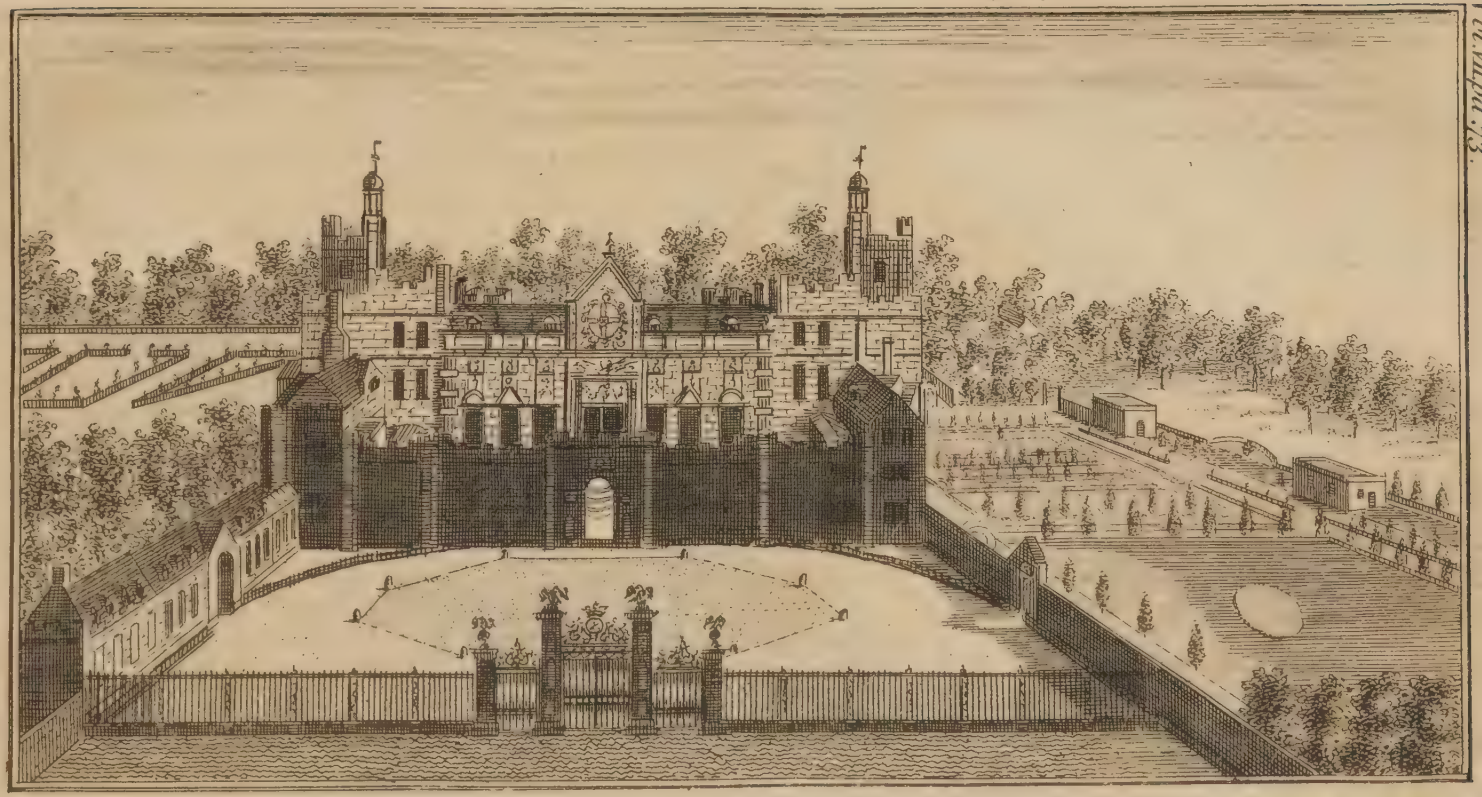
The South View of Barnwell Castle, *in the County of* Northampton.

The South View of Drayton Houſe, *in the County of* Northampton.



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her ſon, and heir without iſſue, it devolved to the Veres, by the marriage of Iſabel, ſiſter and ſole heireſs of the above Henry Green, to Henry Vere, Eſq; who afterwards received the honour of knighthood; but he dying without iſſue, Elizabeth, his daughter and co-hereſs, was married to John, firſt lord Mordaunt, earl of Peterborough, whoſe only daughter Mary, married Henry, duke of Norfolk, and he dying without iſſue, ſhe married Sir John Germain, Bart. There are now but little remains of the old caſtle, the greateſt part being rebuilt; ſo that at preſent it is a very beautiful ſtructure, whoſe architecture and turrets have a very fine effect; and of which we have given a view.

From Thrapſton the road extends ſix miles ſouth to HIGHAM-FERRERS, or FERRIS, which ſignifies the high houſe of Ferrers, it deriving its name from a caſtle on a riſing ground, anciently in the poſſeſſion of the family of the Ferrers. It is a ſmall town, but ſtands on the eaſt ſide of the Nen, in a clean and dry ſituation: and has a good air, which renders it very pleaſant. The church is a handſome ſtructure, with a lofty ſpire. It has a free-ſchool, and alms-houſe, for twelve men and one woman. It was made a borough in the reign of Philip and Mary, and the corporation conſiſts of a mayor, ſteward, a recorder, ſeven aldermen, thirteen capital burgeſſes and commonalty, with ſeveral inferior officers. In the tenth year of Henry the Fifth, that prince granted a licence to Henry Chicheley, archbiſhop of Canterbury, to found a college here, this being the place of his birth, for eight ſecular chaplains, one of whom was to teach grammar, four clerks and ſix choriſters, who were to teach ſinging. It was incorporated by the name of the College of the Bleſſed Virgin, St. Thomas of Canterbury, and

St. Edward the Confeſſor. The biſhop endowed it with lands in his life-time, and theſe were encreaſed after his death by his brethren Robert and William, aldermen of London, his executors. Its annual value, at the ſuppreſſion, according to Dugdale, was 155 l. 2 s.

Henry Chicheley, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the fifteenth century, was born of an obſcure family, at Higham-Ferrers, and educated at Wincheſter-ſchool, and New-college in Oxford. Being a man remarkable for his political abilities, he was ſent ambaſſador by king Henry the Fourth, to Pope Gregory the Twelfth, who promoted him to the biſhopric of St. David's, and conſecrated him with his own hands. In 1409, he aſſiſted at the council of Piſa. About four years after he was ſent ambaſſador by king Henry the Fifth, to king Charles the Firſt of France, and to John, duke of Burgundy; and in 1414, he was advanced to the ſee of Canterbury. It was chiefly by his advice that king Henry the Fifth was perſuaded to aſſert his title to the crown of France. He founded a college in the place of his nativity, as alſo the college of All-Souls in Oxford. At laſt, after having held the archiepiſcopal ſee for the ſpace of twenty-nine years, he died April the 12th, 1443, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury, under a tomb of his own raiſing.

At ARTLEBOROUGH, a village on the other ſide of the Nen, near Higham-Ferrers, is a church in which John Pyel, in the reign of Edward the Third, began a college, for ſix ſecular canons or prebendaries, and four clerks, which, after his deceaſe, was perfected by his executrix, in the reign of Richard the Second. This collegiate church was, at the diſſolution, endowed with annual revenues, to the amount of 70 l. 6 s. 10 d.

About

About four miles ſouth-weſt of Higham Ferrers is WELLINGBOROUGH, which is ſuppoſed to have taken its name from the great number of wells and ſprings in and near it. It is ſeated on the ſouth ſide of a hill, about a quarter of a mile to the weſt of the river Nen, in the road from Bedford to Nottingham, at the diſtance of ſixty-five miles north by weſt of London, and is a large, populous trading town. It has a handſome church, and a charity-ſchool for forty children, who are maintained, cloathed, and taught to read and write. As it is ſeated in a great corn country, its chief trade is in corn, and beſides, it has a conſiderable manufacture of bone-lace, which, it is ſaid, returns above 50 l. a week into the town, one week with another. It was deſtroyed by the Danes, but after it was recovered, it was made a market town by king John, and grew ſo famous for its trade in corn, that it greatly hurt the trade of Higham-Ferrers. In 1738 a dreadful fire broke out here, which, in ſix hours time, conſumed above eight hundred houſes, but they have ſince been rebuilt in a more beautiful manner than before. This town is celebrated for its medicinal waters, and queen Mary, wife to king Charles the Firſt, is ſaid to have continued many weeks here, by the advice of her phyſicians, to drink them. This town has a market on Wedneſdays, and three fairs, held on Eaſter-Wedneſday, for horſes and hogs; on Wedneſday in Whitſon-week, for horſes, horned cattle and ſheep, and on October 29, for horſes, horned cattle and cheeſe

About a mile and a half ſouth-eaſt of Wellingborough, on the other ſide of the Nen, is CHESTER, where there was a Roman fortification, of an oblong ſquare form, twice as long as broad, and was originally walled with ſtone. It extends in length from north to ſouth, and the area within

conſiſts of about twenty acres of ground. The bottom of the wall is about eight feet thick, and the out-courſes of the ſtone, are laid flat-ways, but the inward endways. The river Nen runs under the weſtern wall, and among the ruins of the ſouthern wall have been found two plain ſtone pillars of an oblong quadrangular form, and about four feet long. Some take them to be ſepulchral altars; but as they have no inſcriptions, this is uncertain. Roman bricks and pavements are often found here, as alſo ſome Roman coins; and therefore there is no doubt, but it was a ſummer ſtation for the Roman ſoldiers.

Six miles ſouth-eaſt of Wellingborough, and ſeven miles eaſt of Northampton is CASTLE-ASHBY, the ſeat of the earl of Northampton, which was begun by Henry, lord Compton, and finiſhed by his ſucceſſor William, earl of Northampton. It was greatly damaged by fire, but has been repaired by the ſucceeding earls, and is at preſent a ſtately ſtructure. The gardens are very fine, but the chief ornament of this noble ſeat is Yardley-chaſe, which is diſpoſed in a regular and advantageous manner.

Beſides the great men already mentioned as being in this county, it has produced the following.

Francis Godwin, an able divine, a candid hiſtorian, an elegant writer, and ſucceſſively biſhop of Landaff and Hereford, in the beginning of the ſeventeenth century, was born in the year 1561, at Havington in this county, and educated at Chriſt-church college, Oxford. He gave early proofs of his pregnant parts; for, by the time he had attained the twenty-ſecond year of his age, he wrote a book, intitled, *the Man in the Moon*, or a voyage to that planet; and another called, *the Inanimate Courier*; both of them remarkable for learning and

and ingenuity. But his capital performance, and that which laid the foundation of his future fame and fortune, was his *Catalogue of the Engliſh biſhops, from the firſt planting of Chriſtanity in this Iſland:* a work, which, at that time, was ſo well received, that queen Elizabeth, as a reward of his merit, beſtowed upon him the biſhopric of Landaff, from which he was afterwards, by king James the Firſt, tranſlated to the ſee of Hereford. He died in the month of April, 1633. Beſides the works already mentioned, he wrote the annals of the reigns of king Henry the Eighth, king Edward the Sixth, and queen Mary; together with ſome other tracts of inferior note.

Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher, two celebrated dramatic poets of the ſeventeenth century, were ſo cloſely united as authors, and ſo jointly concerned in the fate of their productions, that their lives cannot well be ſeparated. The former was born in Leiceſterſhire in 1586: the latter, in Northamptonſhire, in 1576. Beaumont's father was one of the judges of the Common-Pleas: Fletcher's was biſhop of London. They were both educated at Cambridge. Having once met at a tavern, it is ſaid, in order to form the plan of a tragedy, Fletcher propoſed *to kill the king*; an expreſſion, which, being overheard by an officious waiter, would probably have brought them into a good deal of trouble, had it not been happily diſcovered, that the plot was only againſt a dramatical king. Beaumont died in 1615; Fletcher, in 1625. Their firſt capital performance was *Philaſter*, or *Love lies a Bleeding*; and that, as well as ſome of their other plays, has been altered and improved by ſucceeding writers.

Thomas Fuller, an eminent divine and hiſtorian, was the ſon of Mr. Thomas Fuller, miniſter of St. Peter's in the town of Oldwincle,

near Oundel in Northamptonſhire, and born in that place in the year 1608. He had his education in the univerſity of Cambridge, where he made ſuch ſurprizing advances in his ſtudies, that he took the degree of maſter of arts, before he had arrived at the twentieth year of his age. His firſt ſtation in the church was that of being miniſter of St. Bennet's pariſh in Cambridge; whence he roſe ſucceſſively to be a prebendary in the cathedral of Saliſbury,, rector of Broad Windſor in Dorſetſhire, and lecturer of the Savoy in London; but adhering to his ſovereign, upon the breaking out of the civil war, he was ſtript by the parliament of all his preferments. He continued, nevertheleſs, during the troubles that enſued, to exerciſe his talents as a preacher, which were confeſſedly excellent; though the greateſt part of his time was employed in compoſing his *Church Hiſtory of Britain*, his *Worthies of England*, his *Piſgah-Sight of Paleſtine*, and ſeveral other works, with which he favoured the public. Upon the reſtoration he was appointed chaplain in ordinary to his majeſty, and would probably have been advanced to ſtill higher dignities, had he not been cut off by a fever, on the 16th of Auguſt, 1661, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. He was poſſeſſed, it is ſaid, of ſuch a tenacious memory, that, after a walk from Temple-bar to the fartheſt conduit in Cheapſide, he repeated all the ſigns on both ſides of the way, in due order, and without miſſing or miſplacing a ſingle one.

Thomas Randolph, an eminent Engliſh poet in the ſeventeenth century, was born June the 15th, 1605, at Newnham in this county, and educated firſt at Weſtminſter-ſchool, and afterwards at Trinity-college in Cambridge. To him might be applied that obſervation of Horace, *Poeta naſcitur, non fit*; for when only about the age of nine or

or ten, he wrote *the Hiſtory of the Incarnation of Our Saviour*, in verſe. His ſubſequent writings eſtabliſhed his character, and procured him the eſteem and friendſhip of ſome of the greateſt wits of the age, particularly of Ben Johnſon, who adopted him for one of his ſons. He died in March 1634, aged not quite thirty, and was interred in Blatherwick-church in Northamptonſhire, among the Stafford family. He wrote ſix dramatic pieces, and ſeveral other poems, which were all collected, and publiſhed after his death by a younger brother of his named Robert.

James Harrington, an eminent political writer in the ſeventeenth century, was the eldeſt ſon of Sir Sapcote Harrington, and born at Upton in this county, in the beginning of the year 1611. Having finiſhed his ſtudies at Trinity college in Oxford, he travelled into foreign countries; and after ſpending ſome time in viſiting the different courts of Europe, and examining the forms of the ſeveral governments, he returned to England a moſt accompliſhed gentleman. At the breaking out of the civil war he plainly favoured the parliament; though he took no farther concern in the troubles that followed, than by exerting his utmoſt endeavours to reconcile the contending parties. He afterwards attended the king, while that prince was a priſoner, as one of the grooms of his bedchamber, and, by his ſenſible converſation, and dutiful behaviour, ſo effectually recommended himſelf to the good graces of his ſovereign, that his majeſty ever after entertained the higheſt regard for him, and even when he was upon the ſcaffold, a little before his execution, he gave Mr. Harrington, who was then preſent, a token of his affection. Mr. Harrington, however, tho' he eſteemed the perſonal character of his majeſty, and expreſſed the ſincereſt regret for his death, was,

by no means, a friend to monarchy; as appeared from his *Oceana*, and other works, which he ſoon after publiſhed. And not content with propagating his republican principles merely by his writings, he inſtituted a ſociety of gentlemen, who met nightly at Miles's coffee-houſe, New-Palace-yard, Weſtminſter; they were known by the name of the *Rota*; and continued their meetings till about the 21ſt of February, 1659, when, the ſecluded members of parliament being reſtored by general Monk, all their political ſchemes at once vaniſhed. It was probably for the zeal, which he ſhewed in this particular, that, notwithſtanding his peaceable deportment after the reſtoration, he was, in 1661, committed to the Tower on a charge of high-treaſon; and though no proof of his guilt could ever be produced, he was removed, firſt to St. Nicholas's iſland, and thence to Plymouth, where, from the effects of ſome medicines adminiſtred to him by one Dr. Dunſtan, he was ſeized with a delirium. He recovered, however, both his liberty and his ſenſes; and returning to London, lived there in quiet till 1677, when he died of a palſy on the 11th of September of that year, and was buried in the church of St. Margaret, Weſtminſter.

Samuel Foſter, an eminent mathematician in the ſeventeenth century, and aſtronomy profeſſor in Greſham-college, was born ſomewhere in the county of Northampton, but in what place or year is uncertain. During his reſidence in Emanuel-college Cambridge, where he had his education, he applied himſelf chiefly to the ſtudy of the mathematics, in which he made a very conſiderable progreſs. He ſucceeded Mr. Gillebrand in the aſtronomy-profeſſorſhip in Greſham-college, which he afterwards reſigned in favour of Mr. Murray, a Scottiſh gentleman; upon whoſe marrying,

marrying, and obtaining a living in the church, he reſumed his former office. He died in July, 1652, and was buried in the church of St. Peter le Poor in Broad-ſtreet: his works are numerous. Some of them were publiſhed in his life-time; others after his death.

John Dryden, one of the moſt eminent poets of the ſeventeenth century, was deſcended of an honourable family, and born at Aldwincle in Northamptonſhire, Auguſt the 9th, 1651. He had his education at Weſtminſter-ſchool, under the famous Dr. Buſby; and during his reſidence in that place, tranſlated the *third Satire of Perſius*, for a Thurſday night's exerciſe, and wrote a *Poem on the Death of the lord Haſtings*. Having perfected himſelf in claſſical learning, he removed to Trinity-college in Cambridge, where he proſecuted his ſtudies with great ardour, and ſoon acquired the character of an excellent poet. In 1658 he publiſhed *Heroic Stanza's on the late Lord Protector*; and about two years after, his *Aſtraea Redux*, a poem on the reſtoration, made its appearance. In 1668, upon the death of Sir William Davenant, he was appointed poet laureat and hiſtoriographer to king Charles the Second; and, the ſame year, publiſhed his Eſſay on Dramatic poeſy. His firſt play, entitled, *the Wild Gallant*, appeared in 1669; and during the twenty-four years that followed, he produced, beſides his other numerous poetical writings, no leſs than twenty-ſix new plays; of which, though ſome of them are very indifferent, many are allowed to have a great deal of merit. His abilities, however, as a dramatic writer, were publickly ridiculed in the celebrated comedy, intitled, *the Rehearſal*, compoſed by the duke of Buckingham, who has there introduced him under the character of *Bays*; but for this aſſault, which, however ſevere, was not altogether

unmerited, he took ample revenge in his Abſalom and Achitophel, where, with great energy of ſtyle and poignancy of ſatire, he has laſhed his antagoniſt under the name of Zimri. In the beginning of the reign of king James the Second, he embraced the Roman Catholic religion; but this, if it eſtabliſhed him in the good graces of that prince, precluded him from the favour of the ſucceeding monarch: for being thereby rendered incapable of enjoying any public office, he was, upon the acceſſion of king William and queen Mary, deprived of his place of poet laureat, and was ſucceeded in it by Mr. Thomas Shadwell, againſt whom he ſoon after wrote his *Mac Flecknoe*. His *Hind and Panther*, and ſome other pieces, were written in the preceeding reign. The remaining part of his life, as the former had been, was entirely devoted to the ſervice of the muſes; and his *Ode on St. Cecilia's day*, his tranſlation of Juvenal, Perſius, Virgil, Freſnay's art of painting, and of ſome parts of Ovid, were publiſhed at different times, and at no long intervals. His *Fables* were his laſt performance, and having now attained to the ſeventieth year of his age, he died May the 1ſt, 1701, and was buried in Weſtminſter-abbey, where a monument was afterwards erected to his memory by John duke of Buckingham. His Ode to St. Cecilia, and his Abſalom and Achitophel, are generally eſteemed his moſt finiſhed productions. His other works, though poſſeſſed of great beauties, are much leſs perfect: ſome of them are even extremely faulty, both in ſentiment and expreſſion: a circumſtance the leſs ſurprizing, when it is conſidered, that notwithſtanding his great merit, and his powerful connections (for he married a daughter of the earl of Berkſhire) he could not yet procure an eſtabliſh-

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ment, which might exempt him from the neceſſity of writing for bread.

Daniel Whitby, a learned divine, in the end of the ſeventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century, was born in 1638, at Ruſhden in Northamptonſhire, and educated at Trinity-college in Oxford, of which he was choſen a fellow. Having taken his degrees, and entered into orders, he became chaplain to Dr. Seth Ward, biſhop of Saliſbury, who collated him to the prebends of Yateſbury, Huſborn and Burbach, in that cathedral. In 1672 he was appointed chantor of the ſaid church; and about the ſame time obtained the rectory of St. Edmund's church in Saliſbury. He died March the 24th, 1726, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. His works are numerous and well known: his *Paraphraſe and Commentary on the New Teſtament* is the moſt conſiderable.

Eliſha Coles, author of the dictionary, which goes by his name, was born in Northamptonſhire about the year 1640. Having finiſhed his ſtudies at Oxford, he removed to London, where he became a teacher of the languages, and was afterwards choſen one of the uſhers of Merchant-taylors ſchool: but leaving that place (for what reaſon is not known) he withdrew to Ireland, from whence he never returned. Beſides his dictionary, he wrote ſeveral other books, all of them calculated for the uſe of ſchools.

Charles Montague, earl of Hallifax, the moſt diſtinguiſhed ſtateſman of his time, was the fourth ſon of George Montague, of Horton in Northamptonſhire, Eſq; younger ſon of Henry the firſt earl of Mancheſter; and was born at his father's ſeat above-mentioned, April the 16th, 1661. He had his education at Weſtminſter-ſchool, and at Trinity college in Cambridge, where he gave early proofs of his pregnant genius. In 1685 he wrote

a poem on the death of king Charles the Second, in which he displayed such strength of imagination, and elegance of taste, as attracted the notice of that great patron of the muses, the earl of Dorset, who invited him to London; and upon his coming thither he soon encreased his fame, by writing, in conjunction with Mr. Matthew Prior, a piece, intitled, *the Hind and Panther transversed to the Story of the Country-Mouse and City-Mouse.* Upon the abdication of king James the Second, he was chosen a member of the convention parliament, and recommended to king William by the earl of Dorset, who, introducing him to that monarch, said, *May it please your Majesty, I have brought a Mouse to have the honour of kissing your hand.* The king smiled, and replied, *Your Lordship will do well to put me in a way of making a Man of him*; and immediately ordered him a pension of 500l. From this time forwards he rose by quick steps to the first offices and dignities, being successively a commissioner of the treasury, chancellor of the Exchequer, first lord of the Treasury, one of the lords justices of the kingdom during his majesty's absence in Holland; and in 1699, was created a peer of England, by the title of baron of Hallifax in the county of York. Nor were his dignities and employments superior to his abilities. The recoinage of the specie, the establishment of a general fund, the raising of the credit of the Bank, the erecting a new East India company, with several other schemes, were at once projected and executed by him, with a facility, which bespoke him an accomplished politician. He was obliged, however, to pay that debt, which must ever be paid by the great: his high merit and fortune excited envy. Twice was he attacked by the House of Commons, who impeached him of high crimes and misdemeanors; and as often was he defended by the Lords, who

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even voted *that he deſerved his Majeſty's favour.* In 1706 he was one of the commiſſioners for concluding the Union with Scotland; and, upon paſſing the *Bill for the Naturalization of the illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover, and for better ſecuring the Crown in the Proteſtant line*, he was pitched upon as the moſt proper perſon to carry that act to Hanover. Upon the death of queen Anne, and before the arrival of king George the Firſt, he was one of the lords of the regency; and immediately upon his majeſty's coming to England, he was appointed firſt lord of the treaſury, and created earl of Hallifax, and knight of the garter. This ſucceſſion of honours, however, he did not live long to enjoy; for he died of an inflammation in his lungs May the 19th, 1715, and was interred in Weſtminſter-abbey. His character has been drawn to great advantage by ſeveral of his contemporaries; particularly by Sir Richard Steel, in the dedication of the fourth volume of the Tatler, and that of the third volume of the Spectator.

Francis Gaſtrell, biſhop of Cheſter in the begining of the preſent century, was born at Slapton in Northamptonſhire, about the year 1662. He received the firſt rudiments of learning at Weſtminſter-ſchool, under the famous Dr. Buſby; from whence he removed to Chriſt-church in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity. In 1694, he was choſen preacher to the honourable ſociety of Lincoln's-Inn; and about three years after was appointed to preach the ſermons at Boyle's lecture. Theſe ſermons were afterwards publiſhed, and are deſervedly held in great eſtimation. His character as a divine was now become ſo high, that he was conſtituted chaplain to the Houſe of Commons, canon of Chriſt-church in Oxford, one of the chaplains in ordinary to queen Anne; and, in 1714, was raiſed

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to the ſee of Cheſter. He died November the 14th, 1725. Beſides his ſermons at Boyle's lecture, he wrote a variety of other tracts, all of them excellent in their kind.

John Friend, a learned phyſician, and elegant writer of the eighteenth century, was born, in 1675, at Croton in Northamptonſhire, and educated firſt at Weſtminſter-ſchool under the famous Dr. Buſby, and afterwards at Chriſt-church college in Oxford, where he made ſo rapid a progreſs in his ſtudies, that, by the time he had attained to the twenty-firſt year of his age, he publiſhed, in conjunction with Mr. P. Foulkes, a Latin tranſlation of two Greek orations, the one that of Æſchines *againſt Cteſiphon*, the other that of Demoſthenes *de Coronâ*. Having finiſhed, with much applauſe, his courſe of philoſophy, he applied himſelf diligently to the ſtudy of phyſic, and how ſoon he became a proficient in that noble ſcience, appeared from a letter of his, in 1699, to Dr. Sloane, concerning an *Hydrocephalus*, as alſo from another letter to the ſame gentleman, *De Spaſmi rarioris Hiſtoriâ*; both which were inſerted in the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*. In 1703 he publiſhed his *Emmenologia*, a work, which juſtly procured him the higheſt reputation; and the next year was appointed profeſſor of Chymiſtry in the univerſity of Oxford. In 1705 he attended the earl of Peterborough to Spain, as phyſician to the army; and upon his return home about two years after, he wrote an account of the earl's conduct in that expedition. In 1707 he was created doctor of phyſic by Diploma; and, in 1709, he publiſhed his Chymical lectures. In 1712 he was admitted a member of the Royal Society; and, ſoon after, attended the duke of Ormond to Flanders, as his phyſician. In 1716, he was choſen a fellow of the college of Phyſicians in London; and

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the ſame year publiſhed the firſt, and third books of Hippocrates *de Morbis Popularibus*, with a *Commentary on Fevers*, written by himſelf. This piece gave occaſion to a violent controverſy between him and doctor Woodward, profeſſor of phyſic in Greſham college, which was carried on partly in a ſerious, and partly in a ludicrous manner; but in both theſe ways of arguing Dr. Friend obtained an undiſputed victory. In 1722 he was elected member of parliament for the borough of Launceſton in Cornwall, when joining with the party in oppoſition to the government, and being ſuſpected of having a hand in biſhop Atterbury's plot, he was committed to the Tower on a charge of high treaſon; but was ſoon after releaſed. It was during his confinement in that place, that he wrote an epiſtle to Dr. Mead *concerning ſome particular kinds of the Small Pox*, and began his *Hiſtory of Phyſic*, the firſt part of which was publiſhed in 1725, and the ſecond the year following. Upon the acceſſion of king George the Second to the throne, he was appointed phyſician in ordinary to the queen; but did not live long to enjoy that office; for he died of a fever July the 26th, 1728, in the fifty-ſecond year of his age. His body was interred in the church of Hitcham in Buckinghamſhire; and a monument was erected to him by his only ſon in Weſtminſter-abbey. His works were publiſhed at London in 1733, in one volume folio, and dedicated to the queen, who had always entertained for him the higheſt regard.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

THIS is the old Saxon name of the county, which was written Northan-Humber-lond, ſignifying the land or country north of the Humber. It being formerly not only a diſtrict of larger extent than it is at preſent, comprehending Yorkſhire, Durham, Lancaſter, Weſtmoreland and Cumberland, as well as Northumberland, but was a diſtinct kingdom of the Saxon heptarchy. Northumberland as it is at preſent circumſcribed, is a maritime county, that extends farther north than any of the others, it bordering on Berwick upon Tweed and Scotland, from which it is divided on the north by the river Tweed; on the eaſt it is waſhed by the ocean; on the ſouth by the river Derwent and Tyne, which ſeparate it from the county of Durham; and on the weſt is bounded by Cumberland and part of Scotland: it extending in its utmoſt length from north to ſouth about ſixty-ſeven miles; from eaſt to weſt in its broadeſt part forty, and is near one hundred and ſeventy miles in circumference; but the moſt northern and ſouthern parts are very narrow, and the former is for a conſiderable ſpace not twenty miles broad, and for ſome miles not even ten.

This, with ſome of the adjacent counties, was, in the time of the Romans, inhabited by the Ottadini, Ottadeni, or Ottatini, a people, ſuppoſed to have been thus called from their ſituation upon the

the river Tyne. These people, being uneasy under the Roman government, conspired with the Caledonians, in the reign of the emperor Severus, and threw off the yoke, at which that prince was so provoked, that having assembled his army in order to reduce them, he had the cruelty to order his soldiers to give them no quarter, but his death prevented the execution of this inhuman command, and the Britons were left masters of this province, till Theodosius, some time after landing in England, recovered it out of their hands. There are greater and more numerous monuments of the Romans inhabiting this county than any other can produce; besides Hadrian's vallum, and Severus's wall, Mr. Horsley has given above a hundred and twenty accurate cuts of inscriptions and sculptures found here.

After the Romans had withdrawn their forces, the Britons, who had been exhausted by the bravest of their youth having been sent abroad to fight the battles of the Romans, were obliged to call in the Saxons to assist them against the Scots and Picts; but when the Saxons had vanquished their enemies, they settled here themselves, and divided the south part of the island into seven kingdoms, of which Northumberland was one of the chief. It was first brought under the Saxon yoke by Offa, the brother of Hengist, and his son Jebusa.

This county lying on the borders of Scotland, whose inhabitants often made inroads into it, partly for conquest and partly for pillage, it was at length found necessary to constitute particular governors to guard and defend the borders, and these were called lords of the East, West, and Middle Marches. At the same time every man possessed of great wealth, found himself obliged to provide a castle for his own safety and defence.

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The air of Northumberland is not ſo cold as might be imagined from its being ſituated ſo far to the north; for as it lies between the German and Iriſh ſeas, in the narroweſt part of England, it has the advantage of being warmed by the ſea vapours, and hence the ſnow ſeldom lies long, except in the moſt northern parts, and on the tops of all the high mountains; the air likewiſe is more ſalubrious than might be expected in a country bordering on the ſea, as appears by the ſtrength, robuſt health and longevity of the inhabitants. This advantage is attributed to the ſoil on the coaſts, which being ſandy and rocky, emit no ſuch noxious vapours as thoſe which conſtantly riſe from mud and ouze.

This county is extremely well watered with fine rivers, the chief of which are the Tweed, the North and South Tyne, the Coquet, and the Read. The Tweed riſes in Scotland, and running north-eaſt, is joined by the Bowbent, the Bramiſh, the Till, and other ſmaller ſtreams; it parts England from Scotland, and flows into the German ſea at Berwick. The South Tyne riſes near Alſton-Moor in the north-eaſt part of Cumberland, and running north-weſt to Featherſton-Haugh, near Haltweſel, there forms an angle, bending its courſe north-eaſtward, and being joined by two ſmall rivers, called the Eaſt and Weſt Alon, joins the North Tyne near Hexham. The North Tyne, which is much the moſt conſiderable, riſes in a mountain called Tyne-head, on the borders of Scotland, and flowing ſouth-eaſt, receives a ſmall river, called the Shele; then continuing the ſame courſe, is joined by a conſiderable ſtream, called the Read; and having received the South Tyne, paſſes by Newcaſtle, and diſcharges itſelf into the German ocean below Tinmouth. The Coquet riſes on the borders of Scotland,

land, a little to the north of the ſource of the Read, and running eaſtward is joined by ſeveral ſtreams, paſſes by Rothbury, and falls into the German ocean at Warkworth. The Read riſes on a mountain, called Readſquire, and at its ſource is a conſiderable river; and after having run a conſiderable diſtance ſouth-eaſt, in which courſe it receives many other ſtreams, it falls into the north Tyne near Billingham.

Theſe rivers afford great plenty of fiſh, particularly trout and ſalmon. The Tweed in particular is ſo remarkable for the ſalmon fiſhery, that they frequently take great numbers at one draught, and they are ſo cheap, that a large ſalmon may be frequently purchaſed for a ſhilling, which is of great advantage to the poor houſekeepers. However, this extraordinary plenty makes them ſo cloyed with this fine fiſh, that the ſervants when they are hired, uſually bargain that they ſhall not be obliged to eat of this fiſh more than on certain days in the week. The lords of the manors bordering on the above rivers, have the property of the fiſhery, which they farm out to fiſhermen, who dry the greateſt part of the ſalmon they catch, pickle a conſiderable quantity, and export both the dried and pickled beyond ſea.

This county, particularly the weſtern parts, are rough and mountainous, but yield graſs for the feeding of ſheep. On the tops of ſome of theſe mountains, eſpecially on thoſe in North Kindale and Readſdale, there are bogs, which it is dangerous for horſemen to ride over, yet the inhabitants have the art of bringing up their horſes to croſs them without danger, on which account they are uſually called Bog-trotters.

We ought not to omit mentioning here the famous range of mountains on the borders of Scotland, called the Cheviot-hills, which are ſo high, that

that on the north ſide of them, ſnow may be ſeen in ſome of their cliffs till Midſummer: they ſerve as land-marks at ſea, and one of them, which is much higher than the reſt, reſembles at a diſtance, the famous pique of Teneriff, and may be plainly ſeen at the diſtance of ſixty miles. On the ſummit of this mountain is a ſmooth, pleaſant plain, about half a mile in diameter, with a large pond in the middle of it. Reedſdale is a large tract of ground very thinly inhabited, and is ſo called from the river Reed, which runs along its north and weſt ſides, and falls into the North Tyne; we have alſo taken notice, that the high mountain called Reedſquire is the ſource of that river, from which it falls ſeventy feet into the valley. The juriſdiction of this dale, belonged to the family of Umfreville for many generations; and in it are a great many heaps of ſtones, called Laws, which the inhabitants believe to have been thrown together in remembrance of perſons ſlain there.

The coal-pits in this county are extremely famous. It is called Sea-coal, from its being brought by ſea to moſt of the maritime parts of Great Britain, as well as to France, Flanders, and other countries: the trade of this county, in coals, is therefore exceeding great, London alone conſuming upwards of eight hundred thouſand chaldrons in one year; but as this coal is dug from pits, it is as properly pit-coal as any other. Here are alſo mines of lead and copper, and the mountains produce great plenty of timber. As the heathy and mountainous parts, as we have already obſerved, afford good paſture for the ſheep, the ſhepherds live in ſmall huts called Sheals, or Shealings, and keep their flocks abroad almoſt all the ſummer. Theſe mountains were formerly of great advantage to England, by defending that part of the country from the invaſions of the Scots, and they

now

now ſhelter the more fruitful parts of the county from the north and weſt winds.

The ſoil, as in other places, is different in different parts. Along the banks of the rivers, particularly the Tyne, there are large and rich meadows, and the land on the ſea coaſt, where it is well cultivated, yields great plenty of wheat and other grain.

The moſt extraordinary plants which grow wild in this county, are,

The dwarf honey-ſuckle, *Periclymenum humile*, C. B. *parvum Prutenicum Cluſii*, J. B. On the weſt ſide of the north end of the higheſt of Cheviot-hills, in great plenty.

The ſea-bugloſſe, *Echinum marinum*, B. P. At Scrammerſton-hills, between the ſalt-pans and Berwick, on the ſea-beech, about a mile and a half from Berwick.

The leſſer ſmooth broad-leaved codded willow-herb, *Lyſimachia ſiliquoſa glabra minor latifolia*. On Cheviot-hills, by the ſprings and rivulets of water.

Winter-green with chick-weed flowers, *Pyrola alſines flore Europaea*, C. B. Park. *Herba trientalis*, J. B. On the other ſide of the Picts-wall, five miles beyond Hexham northwards; and among the heath upon the moiſt mountains, not far from Harbottle weſtward.

Horſe-radiſh, *Rhaphanus ruſticanus*, Ger. Park. C. B. *ſylveſtris ſive armoracia multis*, J. B. About Alnwick, and elſewhere in this county, in the ditches, and by the water-ſides, growing in great plenty.

Common eryngo of the Midland, *Eryngium vulgare*, J. B. *vulgare & camerarii*, C. B. *Mediterraneum ſeu campeſtre*, Park. On the ſhore called Friar-gooſe, near Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne.

This

This county, which is ſituated in the province of York, and dioceſe of Durham, has four hundred and ſixty pariſhes, and is divided into ſix wards, in which are twelve market-towns, Alnewick, Beleford, Berwick, Elleſdon, Haltweſel, Hexham, Learmouth, Morpeth, Newcaſtle, Rothbury, Warkworth, and Woller. It ſends eight members to parliament, that is, two knights of the ſhire for the county, and two repreſentatives for each of the three following towns, Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne, Morpeth, and Berwick-upon-Tweed.

We ſhall enter this county by the London road to Berwick, deſcribing all the towns near the coaſt.

On croſſing the river Tyne, the firſt town you come to is NEWCASTLE, from its ſituation, called NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, to diſtinguiſh it from Newcaſtle-under Line in Staffordſhire. It had its name from a caſtle built here by Robert, the eldeſt ſon of William the Conqueror, to defend the country againſt the Scots. In the time of the Saxons it was called Moncaſter, from the monks that were here, who all fled when it was depopulated by the Danes. This is the principal town of the county. It is ſeated on the north bank of the river Tyne, at the diſtance of two hundred and ſeventy-ſix miles north by weſt of London, fourteen miles north of Durham, and eighty-four north by weſt of York. It has been a borough, at leaſt ever ſince the reign of king Richard the Second, who granted the mayor the honour of having a ſword carried before him; and king Henry the Sixth made it a town and county of itſelf, independant of Northumberland. It is at preſent governed by a mayor, nineteen aldermen, a recorder, a ſheriff, a town-clerk, a clerk of the chamber, two coroners, eight chamberlains, a ſword-bearer, who wears a cap of maintenance, a water-bailiff, who carries a large mace, and ſeven ſer-

jeants

jeants at mace. This is one of the largeſt, moſt populous, and handſomeſt towns in the north of England: the moſt buſy part of it, which lies towards the river, is very uneven, it being built on the declivity of a ſteep hill, and the houſes very cloſe together: but the upper or north part, which is inhabited by people in affluent circumſtances, is much more pleaſant, and has three level, well built, and ſpacious ſtreets. The town is encompaſſed by a ſtrong wall, in which are ſeven gates, and the ſame number of turrets, with ſeveral caſemates bomb proof, but the caſtle, which overlooks the whole town, is in a ruinous condition. Here are ſix churches and chapels, four of which are parochial. That of St. Nicholas, which is the mother church, is a curious ſtructure, built in the manner of a cathedral, and has a fine ſteeple of uncommon architecture. Here are alſo ſeveral meeting-houſes, a magnificent Exchange, and a handſome manſion-houſe for the mayor, a noble cuſtom-houſe, and the fineſt quay in England, except that at Yarmouth. It has a ſtately bridge over the Tyne, conſiſting of ſeven very large arches, which leads into the county of Durham, in which its ſuburb, called Gates-head, is ſeated. On this bridge is built a large gate-houſe, where is an iron-gate to ſhut up the paſſage. This gate being at the extremity of the liberties of Newcaſtle, the arms of the town are carved in ſtone on the weſt ſide of it, and thoſe of the biſhopric of Durham on the eaſt. This town has alſo a fine hall for the ſurgeons, an hoſpital for decayed freemen and their widows, and another for three clergymens widows, and three merchants widows, with charity-ſchools for three hundred children, and a large-priſon called Newgate. Dr. Thomlinſon, prebendary of St. Paul's in London, gave a library of above ſix thouſand valuable

valuable books to the corporation, and ſettled a rent-charge of five pounds a year for ever, for purchaſing new books; and Walter Blacket, Eſq; has erected a repoſitory for them, and ſettled twenty-five pounds a year for ever, for the ſupport of a librarian. The town has a market on Tueſdays and Saturdays, and two fairs, which laſt nine days each, on the 12th of Auguſt, and the 29th of October, during the three firſt days, for horned cattle, ſheep and hogs, and the reſt of the time for cloth, woollen, and various other goods.

Here are many glaſs-houſes, and a conſiderable manufacture of hard-ware, which are advantages particularly owing to the coals, of which the ſalt-works at Sheals, in its neighbourhood, conſume amazing quantities, and the fires make ſuch a ſmoak, that it may be ſeen in huge clouds over the hills at many miles diſtance. There are alſo at Newcaſtle ſeveral ſhip-yards, where veſſels for the coal-trade are built in great perfection. The trade of this town in coals, excluſive of other traffick, employs above ſix thouſand keelmen or coal-lightermen, who have here formed themſelves into a friendly ſociety, and by their own contributions, erected an hoſpital for ſuch of their fraternity as are diſabled, either by age or accident. This place is alſo famous for grind-ſtones; but the fiſh ſold in London by the name of Newcaſtle ſalmon, is taken in the Tweed, and ſent to Sheals, a ſmall port, at the mouth of the Tyne, ſeven miles to the eaſtward of Newcaſtle, and there pickled, and put on board veſſels for exportation. The town is ſaid to have the greateſt public revenue, in its own right as a corporation, of any town in England, it being computed at 8000 l. a year.

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The river Tyne is ſo deep at Newcaſtle, as to carry veſſels of a conſiderable burthen, without any danger from ſhallows, except at the bar of Tinmouth, where a ſand-bank lies acroſs the mouth of the river, not above ſeven feet deep at low-water; and there are about it dangerous rocks, called the Black-Middins; but the Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle have erected two light-houſes to direct ſhips in the night-time, and to prevent any danger from the Middins. Near them was built in 1672 a fortification, called Clifford's fort, which commands all the veſſels that enter the river. The mouth of the river is alſo defended by Tinmouth-caſtle, which is ſituated on a very high rock, inacceſſible on the ſide next the ſea, and well mounted with cannon.

Newcaſtle had ſeveral religious houſes erected ſince the time of the conqueſt, particularly an hoſpital dedicated to the Virgin Mary, ſuppoſed to have been founded in the reign of king Henry the Firſt, but enlarged and endowed by one Aſſelack, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second, and annexed to St. Mary of Weſtgate. Near Weſtgate was another hoſpital dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as old as the time of king Henry the Third, conſiſting of a maſter and ſix brethren, whoſe revenues, at the time of the ſuppreſſion, annually amounted to 26l. 13s. 4d. In the time of king Henry the Third here was a priory of brethren de Poenitentia Jeſu Chriſti, ſeated in a part of the town, called Conſtable-Garth. Between Weſtgate and Newgate was a houſe of Black friars, founded about the year 1260, by Sir Peter Scot, and his ſon Nicholas: and near Pandon gate, ſtood a houſe of Grey-friars, founded before the year 1300. Near the town was a ſmall Benedictine nunnery dedicated

to St. Bartholomew, as old as the time of William the Conqueror, which, at the diſſolution, had ten nuns, and a revenue amounting to 36l. a year. Without the walls of the town was likewiſe a priory, or hoſpital, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, of a maſter and brethren, founded by king Henry the Firſt. This hoſpital is ſtill in being, and conſiſts of a maſter, and three poor brethren, each of whom has 3l. 6s. a year.

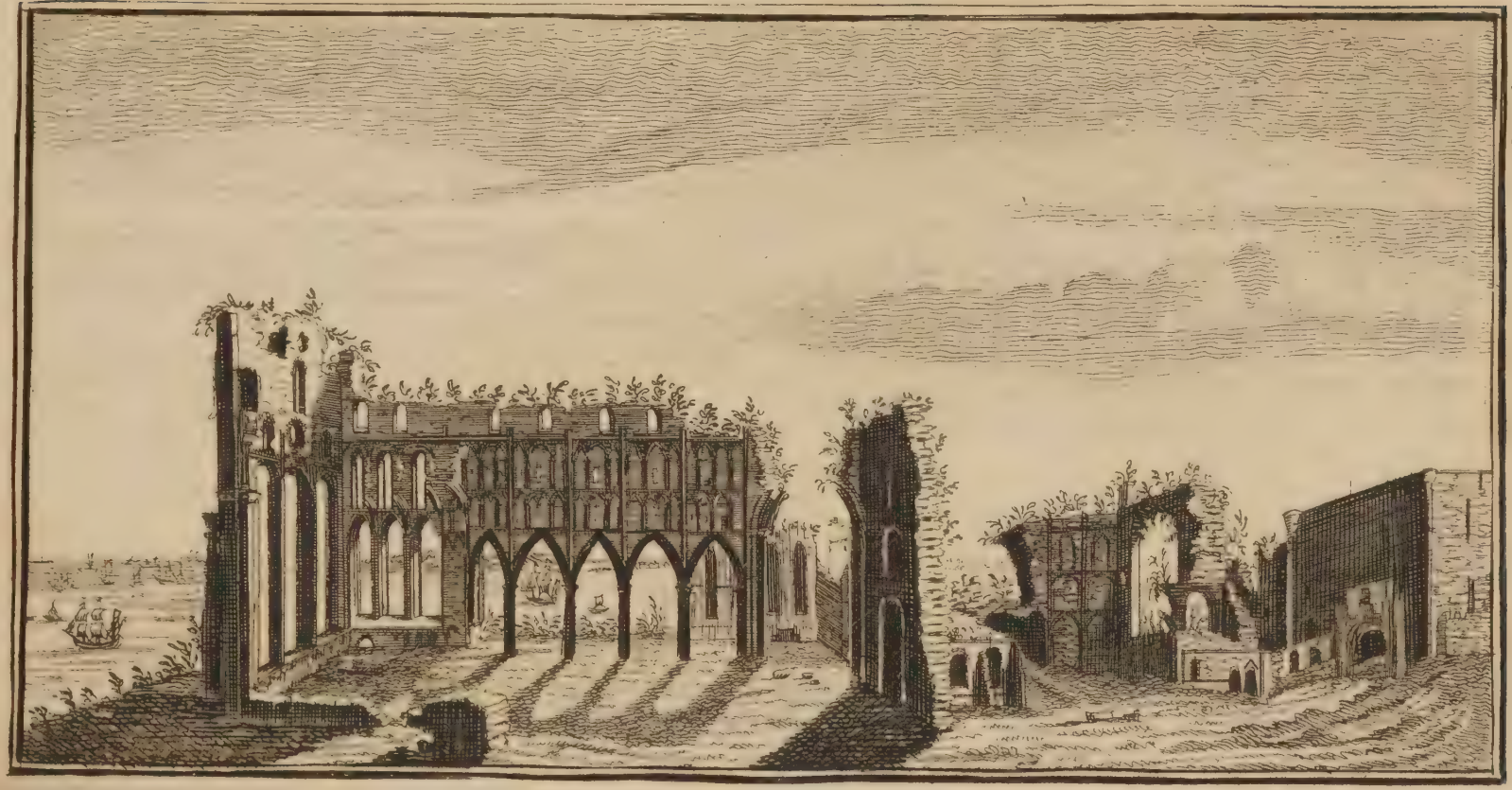
Before we entirely leave Newcaſtle, it will be proper to obſerve, as a proof of the ſalubrity of the air, in that part of the county, that in 1743, two old men, the father and ſon, were ſubpoenaed to an aſſize held in that town, as witneſſes from a neighbouring village; the father was one hundred and thirty-five years of age, and his ſon ninety-five, both of them hearty, and retaining their ſight and hearing; and the next year, one Adam Turnbull died in Newcaſtle, aged one hundred and twelve, who had married four wives, and the laſt when he was near a hundred years of age.

At FENNAM, a ſmall village near Newcaſtle, ſome coal-pits are ſaid to have been burning ſeveral years. The flames are viſible at night, and may be traced in the day by the ſulphur on the ground.

At BENWELL, alſo near Newcaſtle, ſeveral urns have been dug up with coins in them; one of theſe urns has been depoſited in the library at Durham, where it ſtill remains entire.

We ſhall now return to TINMOUTH, which was called by the Britons Pen-bor-crag, that is, the Head of the rampart upon the rock, whence ſome maintain that Adrian's ditch, if not Severus's wall, reached as far as this place: but Horſley is of opinion, that the wall at this end terminated in a ſtation near Couſin's houſe, the ruins of it being there very plain: and adds, the ancient

The North View of Tinmouth Monaſtery, *in* Northumberland.



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cient name of this ſtation was Segedunum, the firſt of the ſtations per lineam valli, where, according to the Notitia, the firſt cohort of the Lergi were quartered: but in the time of the Saxon heptarchy, this place was called Tunnaceſter, from its ſituation on the river Tyne. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by Robert de Moubray, a Norman of noble extraction, whom William the Conqueror made earl of Northumberland. David, king of Scots, Henry the Firſt and Second, and John, kings of England, granted to this monaſtery many lands and great liberties. And Tofti, earl of York, brother to king Harold, enlarged them. King Edward the Third being diſpleaſed with the monks, ſeized on their poſſeſſions; but was the next year reconciled, and reſtored them, through the devout reſpect he paid the martyrs St. Alban and St. Oſwin, which Oſwin, king and martyr, lies buried in this abbey; afterwards the above Robert de Moubray gave for it a cell to the monks of St. Alban's. The remains of this monaſtery, of which we have given a view, ſhew that it was a ſtately building, there being great part of one end, and of a ſingle wall ſtill ſtanding, but the reſt is entirely demoliſhed. The revenues of the above priory were valued at 387 l. 10 s. 5 d. a year, by Dugdale; and at 511 l. 4 s. 1 d. by Speed. With reſpect to the caſtle, we have already taken notice of it, in deſcribing the harbour of Newcaſtle, and the mouth of the Tyne.

The Picts-wall beginning on the eaſt of Newcaſtle, extends weſtward acroſs the county into Cumberland; but as we have already given a particular deſcription of the preſent ſtate of that wall, in its extent quite acroſs the kingdom, as well as of the wall of earth begun by the emperor Adrian, which accompanies it in its courſe, in treat-

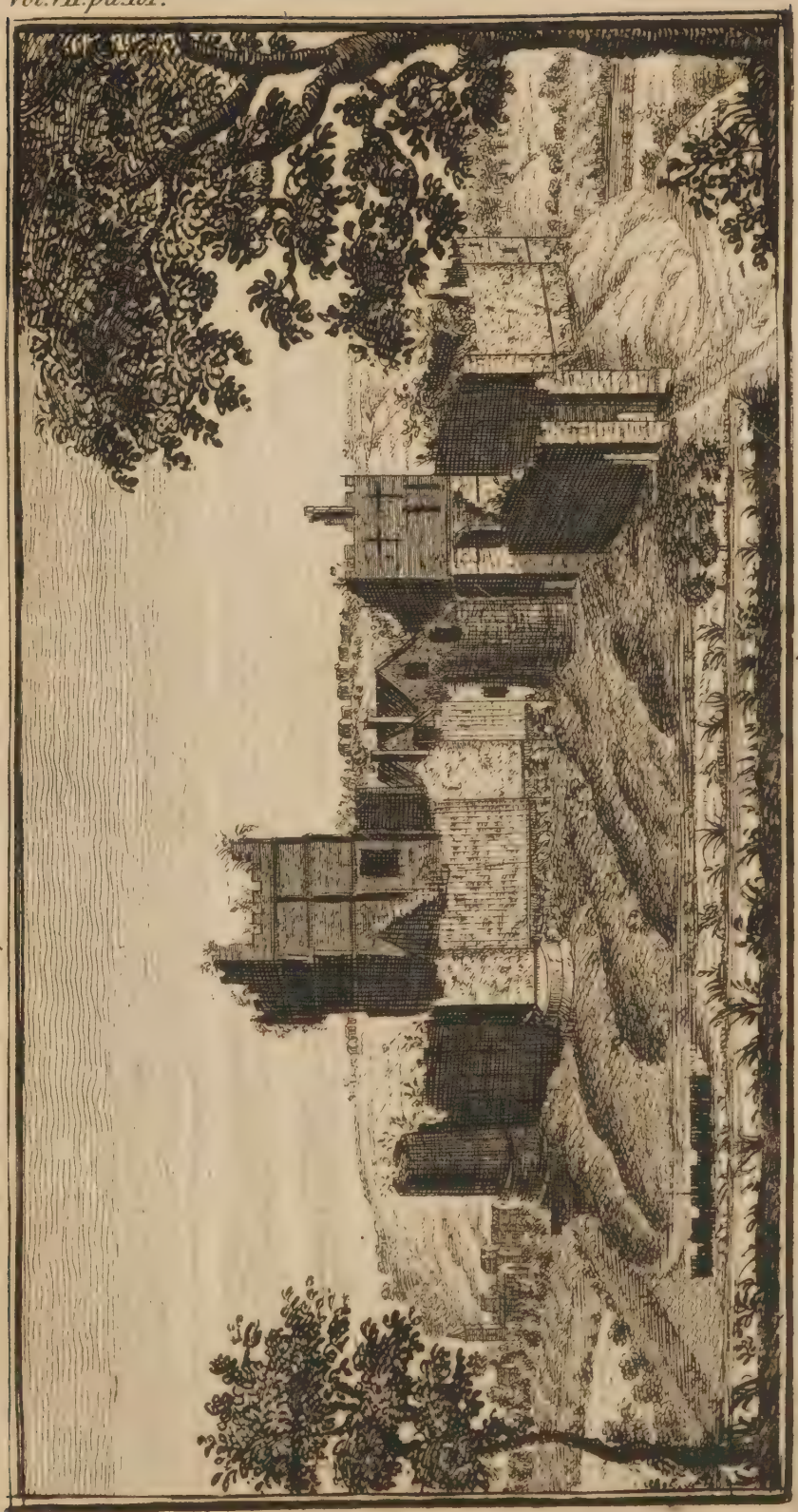
ing of the antiquities of Cumberland, we ſhall not here take up the reader's attention, by repeating what has been already ſaid.

At a ſmall diſtance to the northward of Tinmouth is CULLERCOATS, which is only remarkable for having a very commodious little port of artificial conſtruction. It is dry at low-water mark, and only ſerves for coals and ſalt belonging to the works of particular perſons, at whoſe expence it was conſtructed.

Five miles north-weſt of Tinmouth is SEASON-SLUICE, another artificial port, formed by Ralph Delaval, an able admiral of the laſt century, on his own plan, and entirely at his own expence, for the benefit of himſelf and his friends, but without excluding others who choſe to uſe it. In conſtructing this ſmall harbour he found great difficulties, which exerciſed his ſkill and patience; a ſtone pier, which covered it from the north-eaſt wind, was more than once carried away by the ſea; and on his overcoming this difficulty, by uſing timber as well as ſtone, he found a new inconvenience, his port filling up with mud and ſand, though a pretty rapid ſtream ran through it. To remove this, he placed a ſtrong ſluice with flood-gates upon his brook, which being ſhut by the coming in of the tide, the water behind collected itſelf into a body, and forcing a paſſage at the ebb, carried all before it, and thus twice in twenty-four hours ſcoured the bed of the harbour clean. This port, though ſometimes called Seaſon-Sluice, is more commonly termed Seaſon-Delaval, from the name of the ingenious gentleman who formed it. It admits ſmall veſſels, yet larger veſſels may lie ſafe, and receive their lading in the road.

PRUDHOW is a town and caſtle, pleaſantly ſeated on the ridge of a hill, eight miles to the weſt

of



The South View of Prudhow Castle, in Northumberland.

of Newcaſtle, and about two from the wall; Camden would have it to be the Procolitia of the Romans; but that has been more properly placed at Carrabrugh. This caſtle was famous for its reſiſting all attempts againſt it. King Henry the Firſt gave it to Gilbert de Umfranvile, which, for many ſucceeding reigns, continued in that name. In Henry the Second's reign Odonell de Umfranvile bravely defended it againſt William, king of the Scots, who, ambitious of conquering ſo ſtrong a place, laid cloſe ſiege againſt it; but by its own ſtrength, and the help of Robert de Stutevil, he was repulſed, and it continued as before in that family for many ſucceeding ages. In the reign of Henry the Sixth it was given to Henry, earl of Northumberland, who was afterwards ſlain in the battle of St. Alban's, fighting for the Lancaſtrian line. Henry his ſon eſpouſing the ſame cauſe, forfeited moſt of his poſſeſſions, and this caſtle was given to Robert, lord Ogle, for life; afterwards it came again to the earls of Northumberland, in whoſe poſterity it ſtill continues. Moſt of the walls have ſuffered greatly, only the ſquare tower in the middle, and a leſſer one at the end, ſeem to be pretty entire, as the reader will ſee from the view we have given of theſe ruins.

From Newcaſtle a road extends fourteen miles northward to MORPETH, which is ſeated upon a ſmall river called the Wentſbeck, at the diſtance of two hundred and ninety-one miles north by weſt of London. It is an ancient borough by preſcription, governed by two bailiffs, and ſeven aldermen: the two bailiffs are choſen out of four perſons preſented by the free burgeſſes to the lord of the manor's ſteward, who holds a court here twice a year. This town has a bridge over the Wentſbeck, which runs almoſt through the middle of it. The church is on the ſouth ſide of the

river, and near it, on a ſhadyhill, is the caſtle, now in ruins. It is a poſt town, and being a great thoroughfare to the north, has ſeveral good inns, and an elegant town-houſe, built by a late earl of Carliſle. It has a very good market on Wedneſdays, for corn and proviſions; and this is the moſt conſiderable market in England for cattle, except Smithfield in London. It has alſo two fairs, the firſt held on the Wedneſday, Thurſday and on Friday ſeven-night before Whit-Sunday, that is, on Wedneſday, for horned cattle, on Thurſday for ſheep, and on Friday, for horſes; the other fair is on the Wedneſday before the 22d of July, for a few horned cattle, and is very ſmall.

At NEWMINSTER, near Morpeth, was an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, founded and endowed by Ralph de Morlay, and Julian his wife, in the year 1138, beſides whom it had many other benefactors. It had fifteen religious at the ſuppreſſion, and poſſeſſions of the annual value of 140 l.

Three miles eaſt of Morpeth is BOTHAL caſtle, which was built by Robert Bertram, governor of Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne, and ſheriff of Northumberland, who, in the reign of Edward the Third, obtained leave to convert his manor-houſe into a caſtle, but having no male iſſue, Helen, his daughter and heireſs, marrying Sir Robert Ogle, Knight, transferred this barony to his family. Afterwards his ſon Robert ſettled it upon his younger ſon John, whom he ſurnamed Bertram, being deſirous that his eſtate ſhould go in that name, and his poſterity enjoyed it till the male iſſue failing in Cuthbert, lord Ogle, Catharine, his daughter and heireſs, married Sir Charles Cavendiſh, Knight, by which means it came into the poſſeſſion of the family of the earl

of

The North View of Bothal Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.

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The East View of Widdrington Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.

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of Oxford. A good part of it is ſtill remaining, and ſhews that it was formerly a ſtrong handſome ſtructure, much more regularly built than caſtles generally were in thoſe times; but it is not impoſſible that it may have been rebuilt ſince, tho' hiſtory takes no notice of it. That part which ſeems to have been the gatehouſe is entire, and kept in good repair. Of this caſtle we have given the reader an engraved view.

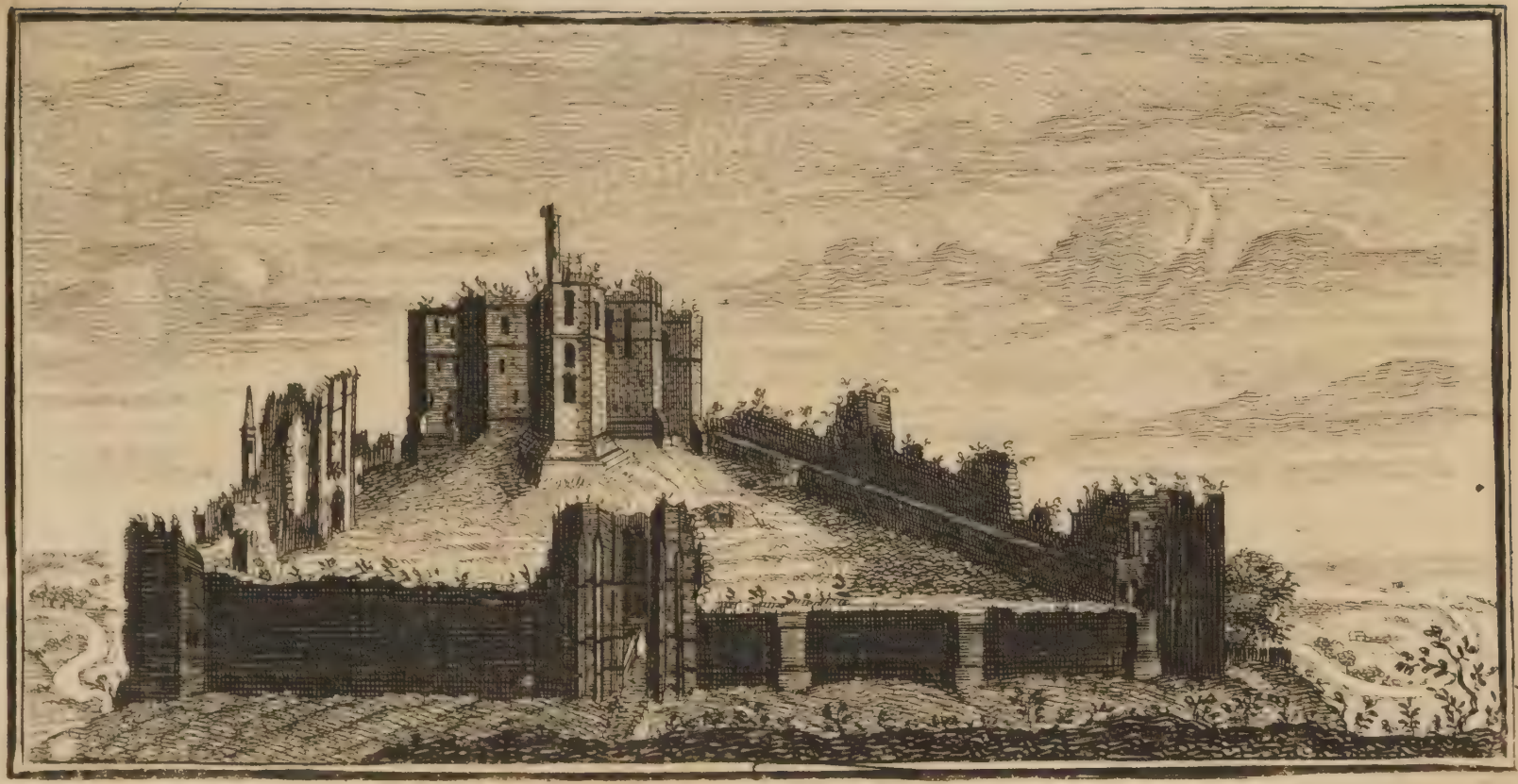
About four miles to the north-eaſt of Bothal caſtle is WIDDRINGTON-caſtle, which has been many years in the poſſeſſion of the family of that name, one of whom, Roger de Widdrington, was ſheriff of the county of Northumberland in the thirty-ſixth year of the reign of Edward the Third, and by deſcent in a direct line, came to Sir William Widdrington, Knt. who was advanced by king Charles the Firſt to the dignity of a baron of this realm, but loſt his life in Lancaſhire, fighting to reſtore king Charles the Second. It is a very handſome ancient ſeat, of a very ſingular architecture. The middle part is adorned at the top with round turrets of a very unuſual conſtruction, and at the top of the battlements are figures, which, at a diſtance, have the appearance of tall ſtatues, though in reality they are quite otherwiſe; however, taken altogether, it is a delightful country-ſeat. Of this ſtructure we have alſo cauſed a view to be engraved.

From hence a road extends eight miles to the river Coquet, which has a bridge, ſix miles to the north-eaſt of which is WARKWORTH, a town ſeated at the mouth of the Coquet, with a very beautiful caſtle built on the bank of that river, which partly ſurrounds it; it ſtands very near the ſea, and is the beſt built and moſt entire of any

in theſe parts. This was the ſeat of a branch of the ancient family of the Claverings, which John de Clavering ſettled, together with his eſtate after his deceaſe, on king Edward the Second, and his heirs. It continued in the crown till the reign of Edward the Third, who gave the caſtle and lands belonging to it to Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, and his heirs, to which noble family it ſtill belongs. Of this caſtle we have likewiſe here given an engraved view.

At this town, near the mouth of the Coquet, is an hermitage cut out of the ſolid rock, by the ſide of the river. The roof is arched, and the ſides decorated with pillars in the Gothic taſte. It is divided into two apartments, each of the ſame ſize; one of theſe ſeems to have been a lodging room, and the other a chapel, at the eaſt end of which is an altar, and over it a croſs cut in the wall. In the window is the figure of a woman at full length, in a recumbent poſture. At one end of this figure is another that appears weeping, and at the other end is a bull's head. This town has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, held on April 25, if on Thurſday, but if not, on the Thurſday before, for hats, ſhoes, pedlars goods, linen and woollen cloth; and on November 22, if it falls on Thurſday, but if not, on the Thurſday before, for horned cattle, ſhoes, hats and pedlars goods.

About four miles ſouth-eaſt of Warkworth is COQUET iſland, which is about a mile in length, but narrow. The air is very unwholeſome, and the land barren, but the ſhoals of fiſh that are commonly about it, make work for the fiſhermen. It has no other inhabitants but a few colliers, who have their huts, for coal is ſaid to be very plentiful in the iſland; ſome even ſay that there is no more



The South West View of Warkworth Castle, *in* Northumberland.

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more than a ſingle houſe, which may be the reaſon of its being frequented by great numbers of wild-fowl that lay their eggs here in great plenty, of which the fiſhermen make conſiderable advantage, by ſelling them to the inhabitants of the neighbouring coaſt. They are of all ſizes and colours, for ſome of them are ſaid to be larger than thoſe of geeſe, and others of the ſize of hens-eggs, and as well taſted; but this ſeems to be an exaggeration, for we know of no birds on the coaſt of England that lay eggs of that ſize. In ancient times there was a caſtle here, and alſo a cell of Benedictine monks, ſubordinate to the monaſtery of Tinmouth.

At the diſtance of five miles to the weſt of the road is ROTHBURY, which is ſeated on the north bank of the Coquet, and is only remarkable for a charity-ſchool, erected for teaching one hundred and twenty children. It had anciently a market on Thurſdays, which is now diſcontinued, or is at leaſt very ſmall, but it has ſtill four fairs, held on Friday in Eaſter-week, Whit-Monday, the 2d of October, and the 1ſt of November, for horned cattle, linen and woollen cloth.

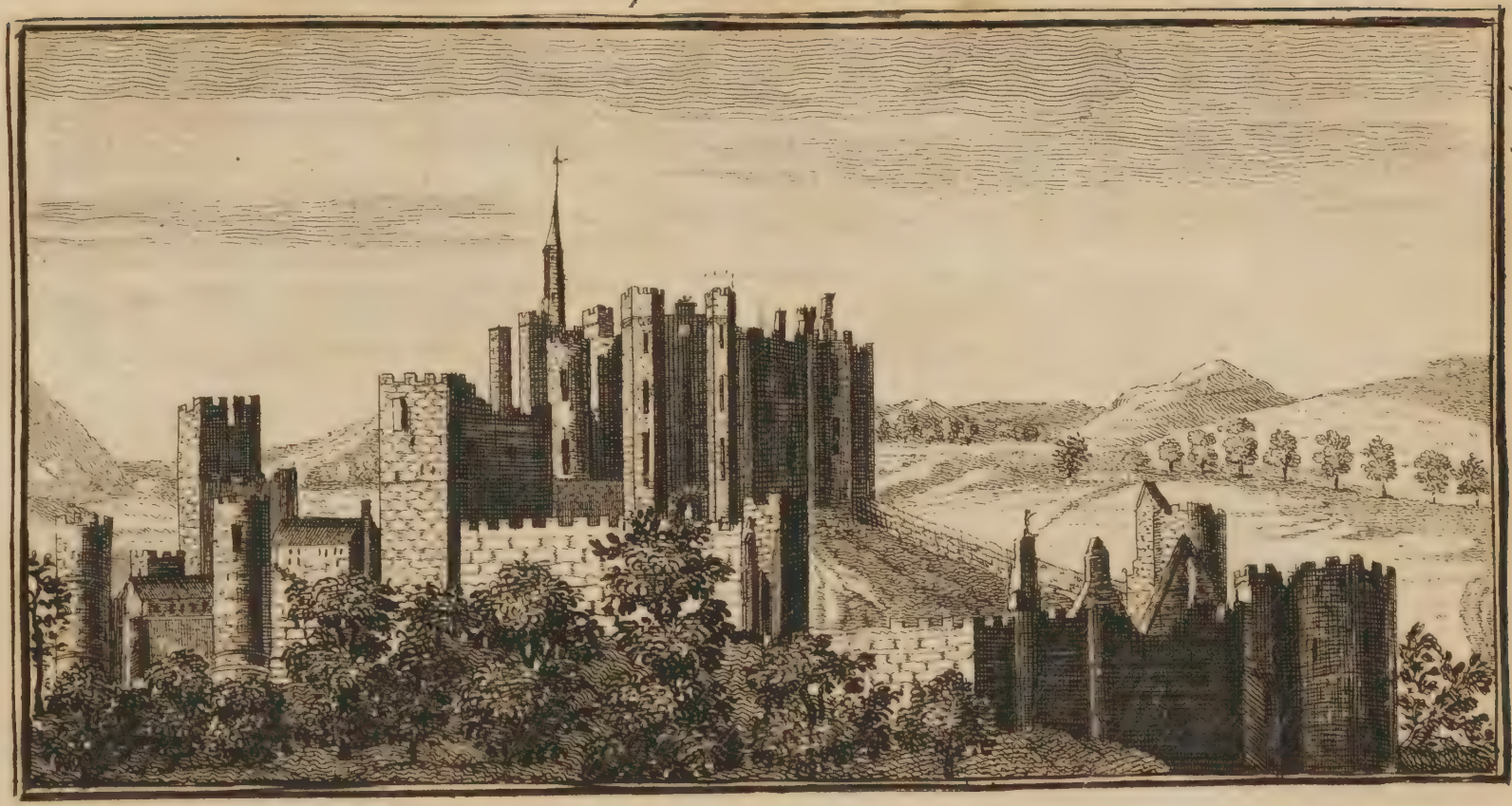
At BRENKHORN, or BRINKBURN, near Rothbury, was a priory of canons regular of the order of St. Auguſtin, founded in the reign of king Henry the Firſt, by Oſbert Colutarius, on a piece of ground given by William Bertram, baron of Mitford. At the time of its ſuppreſſion it had ten religious, and revenues amounting to 68l. 19s. 1d.

HARBOTTLE, a village eight miles weſt of Rothbury, has a fair on September 19, for horned cattle, great quantities of linen, woollen and Scotch cloth.

From Rothbury a road extends ten miles to ALNWICK, or ALNEWICK, commonly called ANWICK, which took its name from a ſmall river called the Aln, upon which it ſtands, at the diſtance of three hundred and ten miles north by weſt of London. The town is populous, and in general well built: it has a large town-houſe, in which the quarter ſeſſions, and county courts are held, and a ſpacious ſquare, in which the market is kept. It appears to have been formerly a fortified town, by the veſtiges of a wall ſtill viſible in many parts, and three gates, which remain almoſt entire. It is governed by four chamberlains, who are choſen once in two years out of the twenty-four common-council. It has a large caſtle, which is ſtill kept in repair, and is a ſtrong, well built, beautiful ſtructure, adorned with turrets, on which are a number of handſome ſtatues. In the reign of William Rufus, Malcolm the Third, king of the Scots, coming hither to concert with that prince about affairs relating to both kingdoms, and not being entertained with that pomp he expected, returned in diſpleaſure, and immediately raiſing an army, marched into England, ravaging all the country as far as this caſtle, which he beſieged. The garriſon was on the point of ſurrendering, when a ſoldier promiſed to deliver him the keys on the point of his ſpear, which he pretended to do; but while he was ſtretching out his hand to take them, the ſoldier ran the ſpear into his body, and killed him. This caſtle likewiſe held out againſt William, king of Scotland, who was obliged to raiſe the ſiege. King Henry the Second confirmed this caſtle and barony to Euſtace Fitz John, whoſe poſterity took the name of Veſey, and after many ſucceſſions, William de Veſey becoming heir, and dying without legiti-

mate

The South East View of Alnwick Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.



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mate iſſue, empowered Anthony Beck, biſhop of Durham, to preſerve this caſtle, and divers lands, for his natural ſon, who was in Ireland, and under age; but on ſome pretence he ſold the caſtle, and honour of Alnwick, to Henry Percy, from whom the earls of Northumberland are deſcended, in which family it ſtill remains.

As the audits for the receipt of rents twice a year have been generally held at this caſtle, it has been always kept in tolerable repair, and it has been thoroughly repaired and beautified, by the preſent earl of Northumberland, who has made very conſiderable alterations upon a moſt elegant plan, with a view to reſide in it during ſome part of the ſummer ſeaſon. Of this ſtructure we have cauſed a view to be engraved.

In this town was alſo an abbey of Premonſtratenſian canons, founded and endowed in 1147, by Euſtace St. John, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the diſſolution had an annual revenue, according to Dugdale, of 189l. 15s. and, according to Speed, of upwards of 197l.

Alnwick has a market on Saturdays, and five fairs held on Palm-Sunday-eve, for hats, ſhoes, and pedlars goods; on May 12, for horned cattle, horſes, and pedlars goods; on the laſt Monday in July, for horned cattle, horſes, linen, and woollen cloth; on the firſt Tueſday in October, for horned-cattle, horſes, and pedlars goods; and on the Saturday before Chriſtmas day, for ſhoes, hats, poultry, and woollen cloth.

It is ſaid, that every perſon who takes up his freedom in the town of Alnwick, is, by a clauſe in the charter of that place, obliged to jump into a neighbouring bog, in which a perſon will ſometimes ſink to the chin. This cuſtom is ſaid to have been impoſed by king John, who travelling

this way, and leaving the road on account of its being very bad, his horſe ſtuck in this very bog, on which he took this method to puniſh the people of the town for not keeping the road in better order.

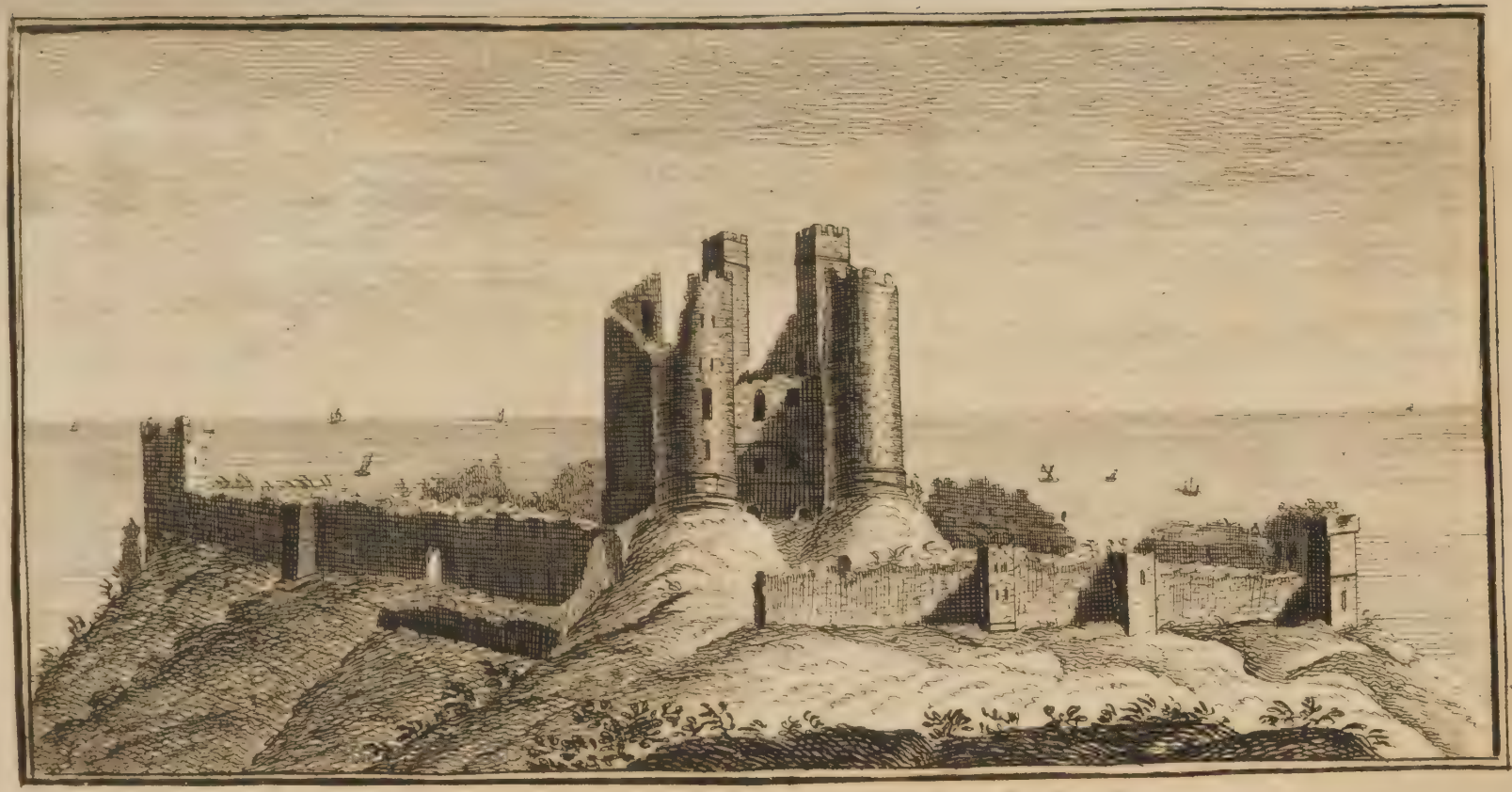
Five miles ſouth-eaſt of Alnwick is ALEMOUTH, or ALNMOUTH, which is ſeated about two miles north of Warkworth, at the mouth of the Aln, and is a ſea-port, whence large quantities of corn are annually ſhipped. It is ſaid, that on the banks of this river, near the town, the bones of men of a prodigious ſize have been diſcovered; but this is a common miſtake, they being doubtleſs the bones of ſome large animal.

About three miles north-weſt of Alnwick is HULL abbey, which has a park belonging to it, and was lately purchaſed by the earl of Northumberland. There are ſtill to be ſeen here the remains of ſeveral chapels, and a ſquare tower of neat workmanſhip.

About three miles north-eaſt of Alnwick ſtands HOWICK, the ſeat of Sir Henry Grey, Bart. The ſituation of this ſeat is extremely pleaſant, it having a fine proſpect of the ſea to the eaſt, and of the country to the ſouth, and is well ſheltered to the north, both by nature and art.

Four miles to the northward of Howick is DUNSTANBOROUGH caſtle, which is ſeated on the banks of the ſea, ſeven miles north-eaſt of Alnwick, and was the capital ſeat of a barony, ſometimes called the barony of Emildon. It was built in the reign of king Edward the Firſt, by Thomas, earl of Lancaſter, the ſon of Edmund Crouchback, earl of Lancaſter, brother to the ſaid king. It is ſituated on an inacceſſible rock overlooking the ſea, and beautifully adorned with various towers, part of which are ſtill remaining.

It



A View of Dunſtanburgh Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.

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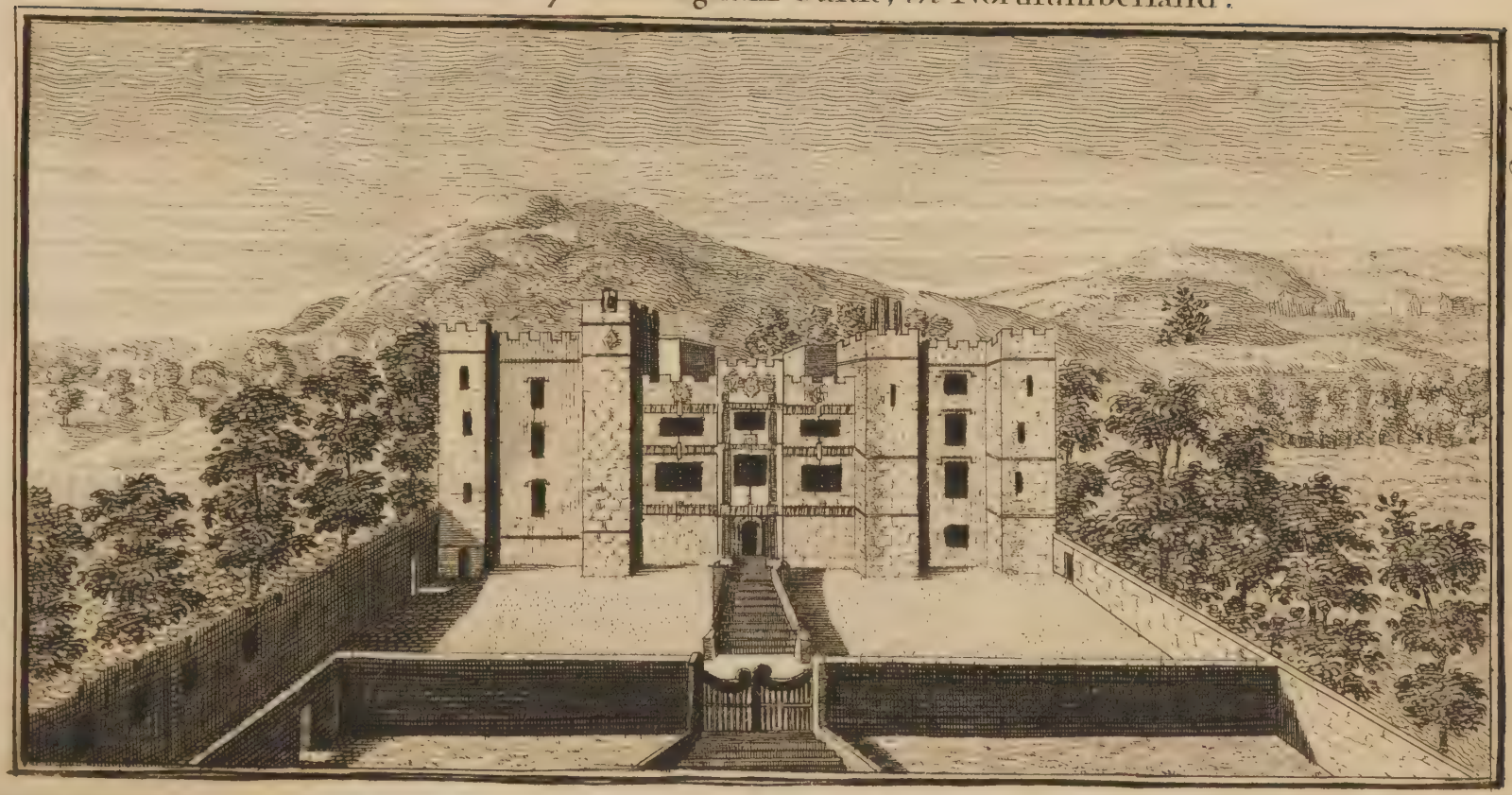
The West View of 'Chillingham Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.



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It was anciently a very ſtrong and ſpacious fortreſs, it being, by means of a deep ditch, ſurrounded by the ſea. In the reign of Edward the Fourth it endured a long ſiege, and was at laſt reduced, and all the garriſon, except Sir Piers de Creſſey the commander, made priſoners. This caſtle and barony formerly belonged to the dutchy of Lancaſter, but they are now in the poſſeſſion of the earl of Tankerville. For the ſatisfaction of the reader, we have here annexed a view of this edifice.

About ten miles weſt of Alnwick, and near the ſource of the river Aln, ſtands ESHINGTON, a ſeat of the lord Ravenſworth, where the family reſides during ſome months of the ſporting ſeaſon.

Leaving the direct road to Berwick, we ſhall take the north-weſt road which leads to Wooller. A little to the north of this road, at the diſtance of about ten miles from Alnwick, is CHILLINGHAM caſtle, which was for many ages the ſeat of the chief of the family of the Greys, barons of Wark. It is a manor within the barony of Wooller, and is now a ſeat of the earl of Tankerville. This ſtructure, of which we have here given a view, is a large old building, of a quadrangular form, kept in good repair, and well furniſhed. It has a large park, in which is great plenty of deer, and a kind of wild cattle, which are all white, except their ears, and the tips of their horns, which are brown, and their mouths, which are black; they are extremely fierce, and will ſcarce ſuffer any body to approach them, except in hard winters, when they are ſubdued by hunger, and then they will ſuffer the keeper of the park to feed them; but they no ſooner procure plenty of food than they become as wild and furious as before. Their fleſh is excellent beef,

and

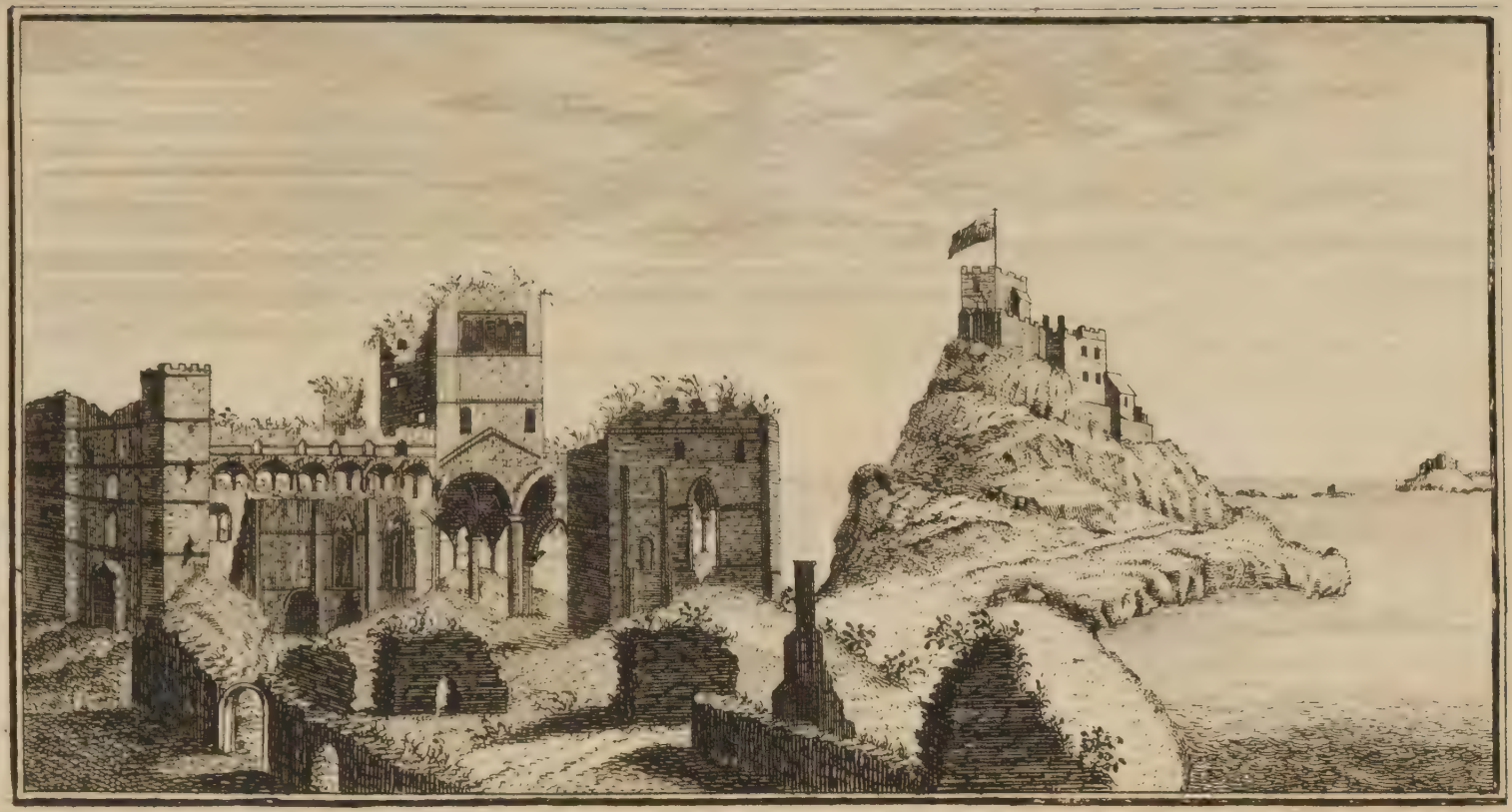
and when any of them are to be killed, the keeper is obliged to ſhoot them.

Five miles to the north-weſt of the above caſtle, and fourteen miles north-weſt of Alnwick, is WOLLER, or WOOLLER, which is ſeated on the ſide of a hill, upon the river Till, which falls into the Tweed. It is a poor place, and even the church is covered with thatch. It has, however, a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, held on the 14th of May, and the 17th of October, for horned-cattle, horſes, ſheep, and mercantile goods.

About five miles north-eaſt of Woller is BELFORD, which is ſeated on the poſt road from Alnwick, about thirteen miles north of that town. It is a poſt town, where a market is held on Thurſdays, and has two fairs, on the Tueſday before Whit-Sunday, and on the 23d of Auguſt, for horned-cattle, ſheep, and horſes.

Five miles north-eaſt of Belford is LINDISFARN, or HOLY-ISLAND, which Bede ſays is twice an iſland, and twice a continent in twenty-four hours, it being every tide encompaſſed with water. Towards the north-weſt it is narrow, and abandoned to the rabbits; but on the ſouth it is broader, and contains a pretty town, with a caſtle and a church, and was anciently a biſhop's ſee: for in the year 635, king Oſwald gave the iſland of Lindisfarn to St. Aidan, upon which it was erected into a biſhop's ſee, with a chapter of an abbot and monks. The cathedral was dedicated to St. Peter, and continued till the year 875, during which time it had eleven ſucceſſive biſhops, but when the Danes ravaged and plundered the ſea-coaſts, they did not ſpare this iſland, which cauſed the biſhop and monks to forſake it; on which the Danes burnt down the church and monaſtery, and left the iſland a mere deſert. A

ſmall



The South View of Holy Iſland Monaſtery *and* Caſtle *in the County of* Northumberland.

The South West View of Banburgh Caſtle, *in* Northumberland.

ſmall monaſtery was built here afterwards, which was inhabited by many Scotch and Engliſh. Ceowolph, king of Northumberland, abdicated his throne, and became a monk in this iſland, but he could not live in the auſtere manner that the reſt did, but indulged himſelf in drinking ale and wine, which they were obliged to allow him. This opened the way for the ſame allowance to the other monks, which was at length changed into ſcenes of riot. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, many accuſations were brought againſt the monks of this iſland, not only upon this account, but for their lewdneſs. The revenues of this monaſtery were valued at the diſſolution at 48l. 11s. 11d. Under the town is a commodious harbour, defended by a fort, erected upon a hill to the ſouth-eaſt.

About eleven miles eaſt of Wooller is BAMBURGH, which is a town ſeated near the ſea coaſt. It has a caſtle built by Ida, the firſt king of Northumberland, who fenced it with a wooden empailure; but afterwards being found of importance in defending the northern parts againſt the continual incurſions of the Scots, it was repaired and made a place of great ſtrength, and was always kept well manned, and provided with ammunition. Breſſy, the ſtout Norman, in the civil wars between York and Lancaſter, deſtroyed the beauty of this caſtle, and almoſt demoliſhed it, ſince which it has been continually running to decay; yet the lord of the manor ſtill holds his courts leet and baron in a corner of it. Of the ruins of this caſtle we have given a view. Roger Havedon tells us, that Bamburgh was a very ſtrong city, but not very large, for it contained no more than two or three acres of ground. It had but one hollow entrance into it, which was wonder-

wonderfully raiſed by ſteps; and at the top of the hill ſtood a fair church. It was afterwards totally ruined and plundered by the Danes, in 933; but it was ſoon repaired and made a place of great ſtrength. After this we find little or no account of it in hiſtory. About two miles to the eaſt of Bamburgh caſtle is FARN iſland, which is bordered with a ridge of rocks, and in the middle of it is a fort. This iſland has alſo a tower, and a light-houſe, for the direction of ſailors. Here it is ſaid Cuthbert, biſhop of Lindisfarn, erected a ſmall building, which he encompaſſed with a wall about the height of a man, but he made it higher within by ſinking the rock. It was built with rough unpoliſhed ſtone and turf, and had two houſes, a chapel, and a room for common uſes. At the harbour is a large houſe, in which the monks who came to viſit St. Cuthbert were lodged. To the north of this iſland is a cluſter of very ſmall iſlands and rocks.

Two miles north-eaſt of Wooller is HORTON caſtle, which for many ages was in the poſſeſſion of a branch of the family of Grey, of Chiltingham, barons of Wark. Sir John Grey of Horton, going into the war in France, with Henry the Fifth, took by ſtorm the caſtle of Tankerville in Normandy; for which ſervice king Henry created him earl of Tankerville, and knight of the garter. The two families afterwards became united, and upon the death of Ralph, late lord Grey, the caſtle devolved to Henry Grey, Eſq; It has nothing of the appearance of an ancient caſtle, except its being built with ſtone, in a ſomewhat antique manner. It is now a very handſome country ſeat.

Twelve miles north by weſt of Belford is BERWICK, which was originally called Aberwick, a word,

word, which in the ancient Britiſh tongue, ſignifies a fort at the mouth of a river: but according to others, it was called by the Saxons Beornicawic, which ſignifies the town of the Bernicians, this part of the country being anciently called Bernicia; others again derive the name from Berwica, which ſignifies a corn-farm, there being great plenty of grain in the adjacent country. Berwick is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſouth ſide of an eaſy declivity, on the north coaſt of the river Tweed, about half a mile from its conflux with the ſea, three hundred and thirty-nine miles north by weſt of London, and fifty-three ſouth-eaſt of Edinburgh. Indeed it is not properly in this county, or even in England, for in acts of parliament, and in briefs, it is always diſtinguiſhed from England, as a town ſeparate, both from this kingdom and from Scotland. It formerly belonged to Scotland, and was the chief town of a county in that kingdom, ſtill called Berwickſhire, and was one of the four towns, in which the convention of the royal boroughs of Scotland were held. It was firſt taken from the Scots by king Edward the Firſt, and has been ſeveral times taken and retaken by both nations; but ever ſince the reign of Edward the Fourth, it has been in the poſſeſſion of the Engliſh. The language and laws of its inhabitants are, however, a mixture of Scotch and Engliſh. It has had ſeveral charters, ſome of which are as ancient as the reign of Henry the Fifth, but the inhabitants were incorporated by king Charles the Firſt, and are governed by a mayor, four bailiffs, a recorder, and a common-council.

Berwick, which is a town and county of itſelf, had a caſtle, which is now in ruins; but has ſtill a wall built round it by order of queen Elizabeth; and

and is farther ſtrengthened by its ſituation, it being almoſt encompaſſed by the river and the ſea. The barracks form a large regular ſquare, and will conveniently lodge two regiments of foot. It is a large, well built, populous town, and has a beautiful bridge over the river Tweed, which conſiſts of fifteen arches, and is nine hundred and forty-ſeven feet in length. This bridge leads to a ſuburb, called Tweed-mouth, where there is another church: and between the town walls and the caſtle is a ſuburb, called Caſtlegate. It has alſo an exchange and a good town-houſe, which has a lofty turret, in which is a ring of eight bells, and a fine clock that has four dials. The harbour is but indifferent, and navigable only to the bridge, though it is within a mile and a half of a bar, that lies before the mouth of the river; and the tide flows four miles above the town. The ſea, over the bar, has not depth enough for any ſhips that draw above twelve feet water, nor is there any good riding near it in the offings. Berwick has a charity-ſchool, a conſiderable manufactory of ſtockings, a great ſalmon fiſhery, and a conſiderable market on Saturdays, for corn, ſalmon, and almoſt all ſorts of proviſions; with a fair on Friday in Trinity-week, for black cattle and horſes.

Some corn and eggs are exported from this place to London, but the principal trade of the inhabitants conſiſts of the ſalmon, which is taken in the Tweed, and eſteemed the beſt in the kingdom. A conſiderable quantity of this fiſh being pickled, are put up in veſſels called Kitts, by perſons who ſubſiſt entirely by that employment, and are called Salmon-coopers, and then ſhipped off for London. During the months of June and July, the beſt freſh ſalmon may be bought at Berwick for a penny a pound. Many of the ſmaller fiſh are

ſent

ſent to London alive, in ſmacks built for that purpoſe, there being a well in the middle, bored full of holes, for the free paſſage of the ſea-water, in which the fiſh are conveyed without injury. Theſe veſſels are eſteemed very ſafe for paſſengers, on account of their lying nearer the wind, and bearing heavier ſeas than any other.

Sir John Grey founded a convent of White friars at Berwick in 1270, and there was a houſe of Preaching friars before the year 1291. An hoſpital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen in this town is mentioned in the reign of king Edward the Firſt, and the maſter and brethren of God's-houſe are mentioned, as being ſettled in this town about the ſecond year of Edward the Third. Here was likewiſe a houſe of the order of the Trinity, which being deſtroyed by Anthony Beck, biſhop of Durham, another houſe of the ſame order was built by William and Laurence Acton; but the religious were afterwards removed to Newcaſtle. At South Berwick, near Berwick upon Tweed, David, king of Scotland, founded in the twelfth century a Benedictine nunnery. And at Tweed-mouth, which is conſidered as a ſuburb to Berwick, was an hoſpital, the maſterſhip of which was in the biſhop of Durham.

From Tweed-mouth, on the ſouth ſide of that river, the road extends weſtward to a village named EAST ORD, and then turning to the ſouthward, paſſes by NORHAM, or NORTHAM, a village ſeated on the Tweed near the mouth of the Till, ſix miles ſouth-weſt of Berwick, where was a caſtle built by Egfrid, or Egred, biſhop of Durham, on the top of a ſteep rock. It was moted round, and erected to preſerve his dioceſe from the frequent incurſions of the Scotch moſs-troopers. In the outermoſt wall, which was the largeſt in circuit, were placed ſeveral turrets towards the

the river, and within this wall was a second of much greater ſtrength, which had in the middle of it a high keep. This caſtle is now gone to ruin, it being of little uſe ſince the union; however, thoſe parts of the wall that are ſtill remaining, ſhew that it was a regular, ſtrong, well built caſtle. At one end a large tower is pretty entire. Under the caſtle to the weſtward lies the town, which has nothing remarkable.

George Carleton, a learned biſhop of the ſeventeenth century, was born at Norham, of whoſe important caſtle his father was then governor. He received his education under the famous Bernard Gilpin, commonly ſtiled the Northern Apoſtle, and afterwards at Edmund-hall in Oxford. In 1617 he was advanced to the biſhopric of Landaff, and, about two years after, to that of Chicheſter. He died in May, 1628, in the ſixty-ninth year of his age. He wrote, beſides other pieces, the following works; *Heroic Characters*; *Juriſdiction Regal, Epiſcopal, and Papal*; *the Madneſs of Aſtrologers*; and *the Life of Bernard Gilpin.*

About nine miles to the ſouthward of Norham is LEARMOUTH, which is a handſome town, ſeated near the banks of the river Tweed, where formerly ſtood Warke-caſtle, which is now in ruins, and yet the country about it ſtill retains the name of the barony of Warke.

Four miles to the eaſt of Learmouth is FLODDON, a village ſeated on the river Till, near which is Floddon field, where James the Fourth, king of Scotland, invading England with a great army, while Henry the Eighth was at the ſiege of Tournay, was met by the brave earl of Surry, on the 9th of September, 1513, when after a bloody battle, which continued three hours, the wings of the Scotch army giving way, and the whole force

The South East View of Norham Caſtle, *in the County of* Northumberland.

force of the Engliſh falling upon the main body, the Scots were totally defeated, and their king, who fought bravely at the head of his nobility, was ſlain.

A few miles to the ſouth of Floddon-field are CHIVIOT-hills, at the foot of which a deſperate engagement is ſaid to have been fought by the earl of Douglaſs and Percy, earl of Northumberland, at the head of their troops, when both of the commanders were ſlain, and a dreadful ſlaughter made on both ſides, which gave occaſion to the old ſong of Chivy-chace.

We ſhall now croſs the country to the eaſt into the road which leads from Woller to Rothbury, and proceed from thence to the ſouth-weſt. Five miles north-weſt of this road, and eight miles to the weſtward of Rothbury, is ALLENTOWN, a village ſeated on the river Ridland, which has two fairs, held on the 10th of May, and the 14th of November, for horned cattle, horſes, linen cloth, green and dry hides.

BELLINGHAM is ſeated ſixteen miles ſouth-weſt of Rothbury, on the bank of the North Tyne, not far from its confluence with the river Read. It has a market on Tueſdays, and a fair on the Saturday after September 15, for horned cattle, ſheep, linen and woollen cloth.

Seven miles north-eaſt of this town is ELSDON, or ELLISDON, a village that has a fair on the 26th of Auguſt, for horned cattle, ſheep, linen and woollen cloth. Here has been found an imperfect altar, in a heap of earth, intermixed with the bones of ſeveral ſorts of beaſts, broken urns, and aſhes.

Seven miles north-weſt of Elſdon is ROCHESTER, or RIECHESTER, which is ſeated near the river Read, on a rocky eminence. Here has been dug up a Roman altar, with the following inſcription: D. M. CIV. L. FLINGEN. MI. LEG. VLV. F.

Another

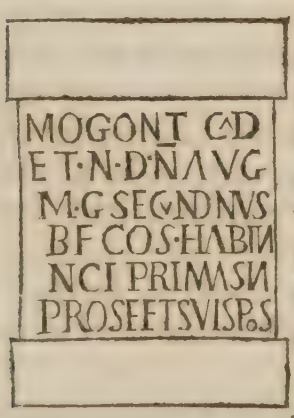
Another ancient altar was found as RIECHESTER, among the rubbiſh of an ancient caſtle, on which is this inſcriptſon:

D. R. S.
DVPL. N. EXPLOR.
BREMEN. ARAM.
INSTITVERVNT.
N. EIVS. C. CAEP.
CHARITINO. TRIB.
V. S. L. M.

This inſcription Mr. Horſley obſerves, ſhould be read thus: Deae, Romae ſacrum duplares numeri exploratorum Bremenii aram inſtituerunt numini ejus Caio Caepione Charitino tribuno votum ſolverunt libentes merito. Mr. Horſley obſerves, on his rendering the D. R. S. at the top Deae Romae ſacrum, that there needs no proof to convince thoſe who are acquainted with medals and other Roman antiquities, that the Romans made a goddeſs of Rome, and erected altars and temples to her. Camden juſtly conjectures, from the mention of the word Bremenium upon this altar, that that ſtation, which has been ſo induſtriouſly, and ſo long ſought for, was ſituated at Riecheſter, and that Antoninus began his firſt journey in Britain from this place, as from its utmoſt limit. Other very curious inſcriptions have been found at Riecheſter, as well as a number of coins, ſeveral of which were of Marcus Aurelius.

About three miles north-eaſt of Bellingham is RISINGHAM, a town on the river Read, which by length of time has almoſt waſhed it away. Camden tells us, that in Old Engliſh it ſignifies the giant's town; but others, with greater probability, think it only ſignifies a place built upon a riſing ground; for moſt of the villages in theſe parts were

were anciently ſo placed. It has many remains of antiquities; and Horſley is of opinion it was an advantageous ſtation of the Romans, called Habitancum. The inhabitants report, that this place was long defended by the god Magon againſt a certain ſoldan, or pagan prince, which has the air of a fable; yet it muſt be acknowledged, that there were two altars taken out of the river inſcribed to the god Magon; the tutelary deity of the Gadeni, whom Ptolemy makes the neighbours of the Ottadini. This altar was removed to Conington, where it ſtill continues, and being very ſingular, we have here given a very exact cut of it.



Deo Mogonti Cadenorum et Numini Domini noſtri Auguſti Marcus Gaius Secundinus beneficiarius conſulis Habitanci prima ſtatione pro ſe et ſuis poſuit. The whole inſcription Mr. Horſley obſerves, is ſtill very legible, tho' it is above one hundred and twenty years ſince this and another altar were taken out of the river Read. The altar was erected to Mogon and the deity of the emperor, by one Secundinus, a beneficiary of the conſul. The beneficiarii were ſoldiers who attended the chief officers of the army; they were exempt from duty, and ſeem to have been ſomewhat like thoſe we now call cadets: beſides the above two altars, there have been thirteen inſcriptions and ſculptures found at this ſtation.

Six miles to the ſouth-weſt of Bellingham is RUTCHESTER, the ancient Vindobala, where has been alſo found ſeveral inſcriptions and ſculptures.

From Bellingham, a road extends twelve miles ſouth-weſt to HEXHAM, the principal town of a diviſion

diviſion of this county, anciently called Hexham-ſhire, which was long ſubject to the biſhoprick of York, and claimed the privileges of a county palatine; but in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, it became part of the crown lands, and was by an act of parliament, in the time of queen Elizabeth, annexed to the county of Northumberland, with reſpect to civil affairs, but it is ſtill a peculiar, belonging to the archbiſhop of York. Hexham is ſeated near the confluence of the North and South Tyne, at the diſtance of 276 miles from London. It has been formerly a magnificent place, and has been thought to be the Axelodunum of the Romans, where the firſt cohort of the Spaniards kept garriſon; but Horſley maintains, that that ſtation was at Burgh on the Solway ſands. He however acknowledges that the ſtones and inſcriptions at Hexham prove that it has been a Roman ſtation, but thinks it might have been a town in the Roman times, and yet not be mentioned in the Itenarary, nor continue ſo late as till the writing of the Notitia, but ſuppoſes it might poſſibly be the Epiacum of Ptolemy.

Richard, the prior of a monaſtery in this town gives the following account of it. Not far from the ſouthern bank of the river Tyne, ſays he, ſtands a town of ſmall extent, and but thinly inhabited; yet it was once very large and magnificent. It was called Hextoldeſham, from the little rivulet that runs by it, and ſometimes ſuddenly overflows it. In the year 675, queen Etheldreda, wife to king Egfrid, aſſigned it for a biſhop's ſee, to St. Wilfrid, who built a church and monaſtery here dedicated to St. Andrew, which ſurpaſſed in beauty all the religious houſes in England. Several privileges were granted to it by the Saxon kings, and the bounds of its ſanctuary extended a mile every way. The

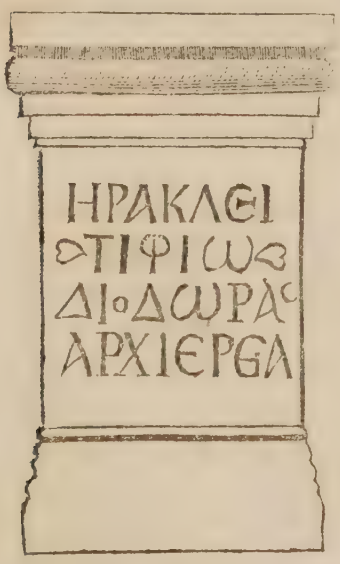
above

above monaſtery contained a prior and regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, who, at the time of the diſſolution, amounted to fourteen, and had a revenue of 122 l. 11 s. 1 d. per annum. Here was alſo a houſe for leprous perſons, as old as the reign of king John, but its revenues at the ſuppreſſion were valued at no more than four marks a year. Malmſbury deſcribing this town, ſays, it was ſurprizing to ſee what towering buildings were erected here, and how admirably contrived with winding ſtairs, by maſons brought from Rome, in ſo much that it ſeemed to vie with the Roman pomp.

Hexham is at preſent about three furlongs in length, in the road from Newcaſtle to Carliſle. It is a well built bailiwick town, governed by a bailiff choſen annually. It has an ancient church built by the Saxons, the weſt end of which has been demoliſhed, but the reſt ſtands entire, and is a ſtately ſtructure, though it was much damaged in the civil wars, but it is ſtill made uſe of as the pariſh church. Near the eaſt end of the church, on a riſing ground, ſtand two ſtrong bulwarks of hewn ſtone, which ſome ſay belonged to the archbiſhop of York. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, held on the 5th of Auguſt, and the 8th of November, for horned cattle, ſheep, hogs, pedlary, linen and woollen cloth of all ſorts.

Three miles eaſt of Hexham is CORBRIDGE, which is ſeated on the north bank of the river Tyne, and takes its name from the bridge built over it for the convenience of trade, and is generally allowed to be the Corſtopitum of Antoninus. Seven inſcriptions have been found here, one of which is in the fore-wall of a houſe, on the right hand as you enter the village from the eaſt: this has been copied as very curious, and has been

twice taken notice of in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, by Dr. Hunter and Dr. Todd. There is another on the church wall, and a third that was found not many years ago; but there were more letters upon it when firſt diſcovered than there are at preſent. The market-croſs ſtands on a high altar, upon which has been an inſcription, but it is now defaced, and on the ſides are human figures: one of theſe has a lyre in his hand, and is ſuppoſed to be Bacchus; the other, like Apollo, holds a bow unſtrung. But the greateſt curioſity is a Greek inſcription that yet ſtands in the churchyard, and is thought to be the only one of the kind in Great Britain. The letters are about two inches high; and the ſides of the altar are twelve inches and a half broad; on one ſide is a wreath, or garland, on the other an ox's head and a knife. Of this altar the following is an exact repreſentation.



The words are Ἡρακλεῖ Τιρρίῳ Διοδώρα ἀρχιερεια. Herculi Tirrio Diodora princeps ſacerdos.

Corbridge at preſent contains nothing remarkable but the church and a little tower-houſe, fitted up and inhabited by the vicars of the place, but there are many ruins of ancient buildings, which prove that it was once a large and ſpacious town. It is pretended, that about eighty years ago, the ſkeleton of a man was found here, ſeven yards long, and that the length of the thigh bone was above ſix feet; but this and other ſkeletons found

found elſwhere of a prodigious ſize, are now generally acknowledged to have belonged to ſome beaſt. Since that time great numbers of teeth, and other bones of an extraordinary ſize have been found, as alſo a kind of pavement, all which, with the above altar, inſcribed to Hercules, render it highly probable, that theſe were the teeth and bones of oxen and other creatures, ſacrificed at a temple dedicated to Hercules that ſtood in this place.

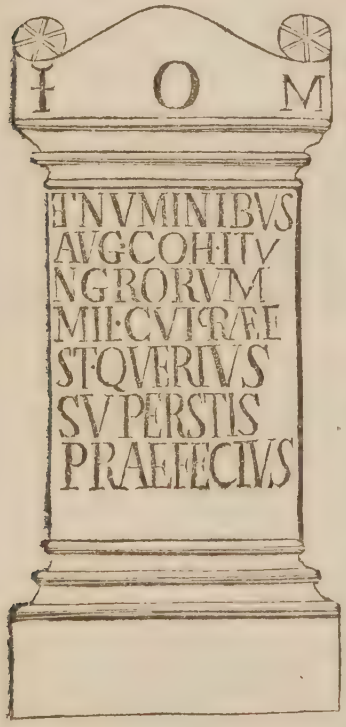
Ten miles north-eaſt of Hexham is BELSO caſtle, which has been long the inheritance of the family of the Middletons.

Eleven miles to the weſt of Hexham is BELTINGHAM, a pretty large village, ſeated on the Tyne, near the place where it receives the Allon, but we do not find that it has either a market or fair, tho' it is inſerted in the maps of this county as a market town.

THIRLEWALL caſtle is ſeated on the verge of the county, about ſixteen miles weſt of Hexham, and was anciently no inconſiderable ſtructure, it being the ſeat of the family of the Wades. Mr. Warburton obſerves, that near this caſtle he found three inſcriptions. Here the Scots are ſaid to have forced a paſſage through the Roman wall into England; and a Scotiſh author obſerves, that they having conquered the country on both ſides, began to ſettle themſelves in it, and ſummoning the boors with their mattocks, pick-axes, ſpades, ſhovels, and rakes, cauſed wide gaps to be made in the wall, through which they might readily paſs and repaſs, hence the village of Thirlewall obtained its name, which ſignifies a hole, or gap in the wall.

HOUSE-STEEDS, is the ruins of a Roman town named Borcovicus, ſeated by the Roman wall, and is the place where the firſt cohort of the Tongri, a part of the Roman army, lay in garriſon.

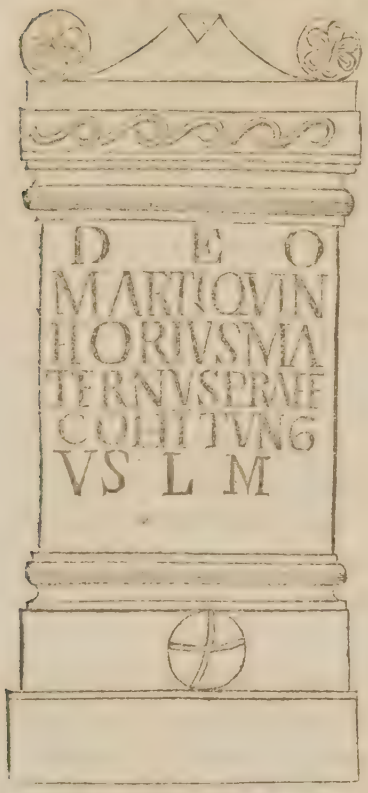
There is no place in Britain that has equalled this, with reſpect to the extent of the ruins of the town, and the number, variety, and curioſity of the ſculptures which yet remain there. Mr. Horſley has given ſixteen of theſe, of the moſt curious of which, we ſhall give a deſcription. The following is an altar, found lying on a large ruinous heap, now called Chapel-hill, fully expoſed to the injuries of the weather,



Jovi Optimo Maximo Et Numinibus Auguſti cohors prima Tungrorum militum cui prae eſt Quintus Verius Superſtis Praefectus.

The unuſual ſhape of the I for Jovi is remarkable. In the ſame ruinous heap was found another altar, which was alſo in a pretty perfect ſtate. At the bottom of a field ſouth-eaſt of this ſtation were many more ſculptures and altars, and the viſible ruins of ſtreets and buildings. At the edge of the fields where the Roman town ſtood, Mr. Horſley found nine inſcriptions and ſculptures, moſt of them erected by the ſame cohort of the Tungrians, among which was the following erected to the god Mars, by Quintus Florius Maternus, prefect of the ſame cohort, in which the globe on the baſe of the altar is remarkable, and the letter A without a tranſverſe.

Deo



Deo Marti Quintus Florius Maternus praefectus cohortis primae Tungrorum votum ſolvit libens merito.

At this place are likewiſe ſeveral curious ſculptures, moſt of which are deſcribed by Mr. Gordon; but Mr. Horſley ſays, the accounts given of them in Camden's Britannia is not very exact. Among theſe is a Victory ſtanding upon a globe winged, with the uſual drapery, done in alto relievo. The figure of a Roman ſoldier at length, in the uſual military dreſs, a poniard in his right hand, and a bow in his left; his ſword hung at his girdle, and his quiver of arrows on his right ſhoulder: another figure of a ſoldier in his acoutrements; his two belts are viſible croſſing each other, agreeable to the deſcription of Ajax's armour in Homer.

But there no paſs the croſſing belts afford,
One brac'd his ſhield, and one ſuſtain'd his ſword.
POPE.

Another piece in relievo conſiſted of three female figures ſeated, which plainly appear naked up to the knees, and are, with great probability, ſuppoſed to be local goddeſſes, or the Deae matres, or campeſtres. There are alſo three female figures repreſented together, at two other places in this Roman ſtation.

Mr. Gordon, when upon the ſpot with baron Clerk, dug up from the ruins of the Roman town here, a ſmall ſtatue of a ſoldier in a Roman military habit, holding a ſpear in his right hand, and reſting with his left upon a ſhield, which the baron depoſited in his collection. He had alſo two ſmall altars found here, but they had no inſcriptions. Beſides theſe, there are ſeveral other pieces of ſculptures, altars, pedeſtals and columns, ſcattered here and there, and one piece of a fine channelled column lies in the midſt of the ſtation.

On the weſt ſide of Houſe-ſteeds has been diſcovered, under a heap of rubbiſh, a ſquare room, ſtrongly vaulted at the top, and paved with large ſquare ſtones. Under this was a lower room, the roof of which was ſupported by rows of ſquare pillars.

The next Roman ſtation where any inſcriptions are found is LITTLE CHESTERS, which is ſeated near Buſy gap, ſeven miles weſt by north of Hexham. Buſy gap was, in Camden's time, famed for robberies, and that gentleman obſerves, that though he had heard there were forts there, he durſt not go to view them, for fear of the Moſs-troopers, as the robbers on the highway in this county were then called. He adds, he was told it was a very large place, which made him gueſs that it was the ſtation of the ſecond cohort of the Dalmatians; on the other hand, Warburton would have it to be the Hunnum of Antoninus, which Mr. Horſley places at Halton-Cheſters. There is here an altar erected to the Syrian goddeſs, which Sir Iſaac Newton ſays was one of the names of Venus. In this place is alſo an altar, erected by ſome perſon whoſe name is not expreſſed, for the ſafety of Deſidienus Aelianus the prefect, and for his own. The letters are but meanly cut, and of the later and ruder form. Beſides

ſides many other inſcriptions, here was found a remarkable piece of ſculpture in relievo, repreſenting Mercury with his caduceus in his left hand, and purſe in his right. Above his right arm, is ſomewhat like the cap of Liberty, but the head of the figure, and the upper part of the ſtone, is broken and confuſed. On the ſide of Mercury is an altar with this inſcription upon it, DEO MERCURIO, and a Camillus lays the incenſe on the altar. This ſtone was found by Mr. Warburton, who preſented it to the Royal Society, in whoſe muſeum it now is.

Near Little Cheſters are ſome of the military ſtones, which are ſaid to have been erected at the end of each mile, upon the military ways. One of theſe is thrown down, and lies under a hedge near the rivulet, a little to the eaſt of this ſtation. But the moſt curious of theſe ſtands at about a mile's diſtance from this place to the weſt.

Several inſcriptions have alſo been found at GREAT CHESTERS, but moſt of them are very imperfect: but at Cockmount hill, at a ſmall diſtance from thence, lies a curious piece of ſculpture in relievo, firſt taken notice of by Mr. Gordon, but in his draught of it he has omitted two eagles, on whoſe wings the Victories ſtand that ſupport the Vexillum. Each eagle reſts upon the branch of a tree. At the bottom are two boars, and that on the right plainly appears to bite the ſtock of the tree on that ſide. Mr. Horſley makes no doubt, but that the boars and the trees were deſigned to repreſent this wild and woody country, as it then was, and that this ſculpture plainly denotes the conqueſt of this country by the Romans, their victories over the inhabitants, and their making a ſettlement here, in oppoſition to all the attempts of their enemies. The heads of the eagles are broken off, but the reſt of them is very diſtinct.

CART-VORRAN is a place which lies on the ſouth ſide of the wall, and in Camden's opinion is of great antiquity; but he would not determine what its ancient name ſhould be; but Horſley is of opinion, that it was Magna, where the ſecond cohort Dalmatarum was quartered, according to the Notitia; but whether it was Britiſh, or purely Roman is uncertain. The fort is placed about twelve or thirteen chains to the ſouth of both the walls, which are here very near to each other, and has a peet-moſs before it, which may be the reaſon of the modern name, for carr ſignifies a fen. The ramparts round this fort are very conſpicuous, and alſo the ditch; the buildings without the fort have been on the ſouth and weſt ſides, and on the deſcent towards the river Tippal.

CARRAW is a village ſtanding by the wall on the north ſide, between Seavenſhale and Walton, where there are evident remains of old fortifications. Horſley calls it Carrabrugh, and allows it to be the Proculina of the Romans mentioned in the Notitia. It was garriſoned by the firſt cohort Batavorum. Mr. Gorden ſays, that many ſtately altars and inſcriptions have been dug out of this fort, with the name of the cohort inſcribed upon them; but Horſley ſays he could never hear of more than one.

The following great men were born in this county.

John of Beverley, archbiſhop of York, in the eighth century, was born of a noble family at Harpham, a ſmall town in Northumberland. He was firſt a monk, then abbot of the monaſtery of St. Hilda, afterwards biſhop of Haguſtald, and, laſt of all, archbiſhop of York. He was tutor to the famous Bede; and, in 704, he founded a college at Beverley, for ſecular prieſts. He died

on

on the 7th of May, 721. He wrote *an Eſſay towards the Expoſition of St. Luke: Homilies on the Goſpels*; *Letters to the Abbeſs Hilda*, &c.

John Bate, prior of the monaſtery of the Carmelites at York, in the fifteenth century, was born in Northumberland, and educated at York, whence he removed to Oxford, where he finiſhed his ſtudies. He was one of the moſt learned divines and philoſophers of his age. He died the 26th of January, 1429, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Sixth. He wrote, among other things, *Queſtions concerning the Soul: a Compendium of Logic*; and *A Preface to the Bible.*

John Ruſhworth, the famous author of the *Hiſtorical Collections*, was deſcended of a good family in Yorkſhire, and born in the county of Northumberland, about the year 1607. Having ſtudied ſome time at the univerſity of Oxford, he removed to Lincoln's-Inn, London, where he became a barriſter; but his genius leading him ſtrongly to affairs of ſtate, he began very early, by taking down ſpeeches, &c. in parliament, to lay in materials for that voluminous work, which he afterwards compoſed. Upon the meeting of the long parliament in 1640, he was choſen clerk-aſſiſtant to Mr. Henry Elſynge, clerk to the Houſe of Commons; and was employed by that Houſe in carrying their addreſſes to king Charles the Firſt, while that prince reſided at York. In 1643 he took the covenant, and was appointed ſecretary to Sir Thomas Fairfax, general of the parliamentary forces. In 1658 he was elected burgeſs for the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and again for the ſame place in 1660. In 1667 he was conſtituted ſecretary to Sir Orlando Bridgman, lord-keeper of the great ſeal; and this place he enjoyed as long as Sir Orlando held the ſeal. He was again choſen burgeſs for Berwick-upon-

Tweed in the parliament which met in 1678; as alſo in that parliament which aſſembled in 1679, and in the enſuing one at Oxford. After the diſſolution of this laſt parliament, he lived obſcurely in Weſtminſter, till at length falling into bad circumſtances, he was committed priſoner for debt to the King's Bench in Southwark, where he ſpent the laſt ſix years of his life, and died there May the 12th, 1690, aged eighty-three. The two firſt parts of his Hiſtorical Collections were publiſhed by himſelf; the reſt after his death; the whole comprized in ſeven volumes, folio.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THIS county takes its name from Nottingham its capital. It is bounded on the north by Yorkſhire, and the iſle of Axholm in Lincolnſhire; on the eaſt alſo by Lincolnſhire; on the ſouth by Leiceſterſhire, and on the weſt by Derbyſhire, and a ſmall part of Yorkſhire. It extends in length from north to ſouth about forty-five miles, and from eaſt to weſt about twenty-four, and is one hundred and ten miles in circumference.

The Britiſh inhabitants of this county, at the invaſion of the Romans, were the Coritani. A military way, termed the Foſſe-way, enters this county from Willoughby-on-the-Would, near the borders of Leiceſterſhire, and paſſing in a north-eaſt direction by Bingham and Newark, leaves Nottinghamſhire at a village called Skarle, a few miles north-eaſt of Newark, paſſing from thence into Lincolnſhire.

We do not find any thing memorable has been ſaid of the county in general, in the Saxon times, beſides what is mentioned in Domeſday-book; namely, that in Snottingahamſhire, if any perſon ſhould plow, or make a ditch in the king's high-way, in the road to York, or within two perches of it, he ſhould pay eight pounds, that is, eight pounds weight of ſilver, two thirds of which ſhould go to the king. This county was divided by William the Conqueror, among his captains and fol-

lowers, the Saxon lords being forced to reſign their poſſeſſions.

Nottinghamſhire is not one of the largeſt counties, but upon other accounts, yields to few in England.

It is well watered by rivers, the principal of which are the Trent, the Idle, and the Erwaſh. The Trent riſes in the highlands of Staffordſhire, and dividing Derbyſhire from Leiceſterſhire, enters this county at Thrumpton, near its ſouthern limits, and running north-eaſt paſſes by Nottingham to Newark, then running north paſſes by Gainſborough, and having received the Idle, runs into Lincolnſhire and Yorkſhire, where it diſcharges itſelf into the Humber. The Trent abounds with excellent fiſh, particularly ſalmon, and on the ſides of this river, as well as on the banks of thoſe that fall into it, are rich meadows and paſture lands.

The Idle, or Iddle, riſes near Mansfield, and running north-eaſt, paſſes by Eaſt Retford and Bawtry, and running north-eaſt, falls into the Dun, on the weſt ſide of the iſle of Axholm in Lincolnſhire.

The Erwaſh riſes in Shirwood-foreſt, and after dividing a part of Nottinghamſhire from Derbyſhire, falls into the Trent.

The mineral waters of this county are not very numerous. There is a fine ſpring of chalybeate water in the town of Nottingham, which is excellent for all obſtructions, but is much neglected.

A mineral water at Kinolton, ſeven miles ſouth-eaſt of Nottingham, is clear, pleaſant, cooling, and a little ſaltiſh; it grows white, and curdles with oil of tartar; but undergoes no alteration with acid ſpirits, and will turn of a beautiful light red, with tincture of logwood. A gallon

will

will yield two hundred and eighty grains of a beautiful white ſediment, the fourth part of which is a fine alcaline earth; and in the remainder is a remarkable pure, clear nitre. This is a purging water, that has not above half the portion of contents as Epſom water, nor will it work unleſs drank plentifully.

At Orſton, twelve miles eaſt of Nottingham, is a mineral water, which, as it riſes out of the ſpring, has a ſweetiſh chalybeate, and a little roughiſh taſte; but when it has ſtood for ſome time it becomes rough and harſh. A gallon yields a hundred and twenty-eight grains of ſediment, of which the proportion of the earth to the ſalt is as twenty-ſeven to nine. The water is a rich chalybeate, with a conſiderable quantity of ſulphur, if drank as it ſprings up, but the predominating ſalt is a calcarious nitre, mixed with a ſmall quantity of ſea-ſalt. It will purge thoſe of a groſs habit of body, and will turn the throat, tongue, and ſtools of the drinkers, perfectly black. It is good in the hypocondriac melancholy, ſcurvy, want of appetite, indigeſtion, pain of the ſtomach, coſtiveneſs, and ſtoppage of urine. It is alſo good in the beginning of obſtructions of the bowels, and likewiſe in ulcers of the lungs, and ſpitting of blood.

The air of this county is clear and ſalubrious, and the ſoil is of two different kinds, clay and ſand. The eaſt ſide, which is very fruitful in corn and paſture, is called the Clay, and this diviſion is divided into the North and South Clay. The weſt part of the county, which is generally ſand, is chiefly taken up with Shirwood-foreſt, in which are ſeveral parks, town and ſeats. This foreſt we find firſt mentioned in the reign of Henry the Second, though it is certain it was a foreſt before. Some time after it came to the crown, it was managed

managed by the ſheriffs for the county, for the time being. The officers of Shirwood had three diſtinct diſtricts, one between the Leen and Dover-beck, the High-foreſt, and Rum-wood, and it is ſaid that this perambulation remains to this day, without any conſiderable alteration. The officers of Shirwood-foreſt, are a warden, his lieutenant and ſteward, a bow-bearer, a ranger, four verdurers, twelve regarders, four agiſters, and twelve keepers or foreſters, all under the chief foreſter. Beſides theſe, there are ſeveral woodwards for every townſhip within the foreſt, and one for every principal wood.

On the weſtern ſide of the county, bordering upon Derbyſhire, there is found in ſeveral places an excellent kind of pit-coal, with ſome mines of lead. In this county are alſo found marles of ſeveral kinds, and a ſtone not unlike alabaſter, but ſofter, which, when burnt, makes a plaſter harder than that of Paris; and this plaſter the inhabitants of Nottinghamſhire generally uſe for flooring, eſpecially of the upper apartments of their houſes. There are in this county ſome quarries of ſtone, particularly one at Gotham, which yields a kind of rugged ſtone, with very beautiful veins. There is a quarry of excellent free-ſtone at Mansfield; and alſo a ſtone at Gedling, a village about three miles from Nottingham, which Dr. Deering ſays, is not unlike the Bath ſtone; for being ſoft it works fine and eaſy, and ſtands well in the air, where it hardens, and ſeems rather nouriſhed than decayed by it. The other productions of this county are hops, cattle, corn, abundance of fowl, and freſh-water fiſh. The principal manufactures are wove ſtockings and gloves, earthen and glaſs ware. The inhabitants alſo make great quantities of malt, and fine ſtrong ale.

Among

Among the principal vegetable productions growing wild in this county, are,

The purple, creeping mountain-pink, *Caryophyllus minor repens noſtras. An Betonica cornonaria, ſive caryophyllata repens rubra*, J. B. By the road ſide, on the ſandy hill you aſcend going from Lenton to Nottingham, plentifully; and in other ſandy grounds in this county.

White wild catchfly, *Lychnis ſylveſtris alba nona Cluſii*, Ger. emac. *montana viſcoſa alba latifolia*, C. B. On an old wall of Nottingham-caſtle, and on the grounds thereabout.

Common fennel, *Foeniculum vulgare*, Ph. Edinb. On the rocks of Nottingham-caſtle.

Alexanders, *Hippoſelinum, ſive ſmyrnium*, Ph. Edinb. Alſo on the rocks of Nottingham-caſtle.

Hoary mullein with ſmall flowers, *Verbaſcum pulverulentum flore lutea parvo*, J. B. About Wollaton-hall.

Strawberries. In Thorney-wood.

Bilberries, or wortle-berries, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, Lin. In Shirwood-foreſt.

Violets, *Viola martia purpurea flore ſimplice odoro*, in Colwic woods, in abundance.

Meadow ſaffron, *Colchium commune*. On both ſides the foot path going from Nottingham to Wilford, in abundance.

Saffron-coloured ſilken ſtone-moſs, *Byſſus aureus Derbienſis humifuſus*. In the ſtone wall of Colwick church.

Nottinghamſhire is divided into eight hundreds, or rather ſix wapentakes, and two liberties. It lies in the province and dioceſe of York, and has one hundred and ſixty-eight pariſhes, and nine market towns, which are Nottingham, Newark, Mansfield, Blith, Bingham, Workſop, Tuxford, Southwell, and Eaſt Redford. It ſends eight members

members to paliament, that is, two knights of the ſhire for the county, and two repreſentatives for each of the boroughs of Nottingham, Newark, and Eaſt-Redford.

We ſhall enter this county by the London road from Leiceſter to York.

Soon after entering this county by the road from London to Nottingham, you come to BUNNEY, or BONEY, a village in which is the ſeat of Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. this is a ſtrong heavy building; but has a good park walled round, and well ſtocked with deer. The late Sir Thomas was well ſkilled in wreſtling, and took pleaſure in ſhewing the art to others: he even publiſhed a book upon the ſubject, which he dedicated to king George the Firſt. It is remarkable, that he had his coffin made and depoſited in the church, where his monument was alſo erected, and upon it placed his ſtatue in the attitude of a wreſtler, ready to encounter his antagoniſt, ſome years before his death, and that he applied to ſeveral perſons for a monumental inſcription, alluding to his being a great wreſtler; and obtaining ſeveral, choſe the following, which we ſhall inſert, on account of its ſingularity.

Quem modo ſtraviſti longo certamine Tempus,
Hic recubat britonum clarus in orbe pugil,
Nunc primum ſtratus, praeter te vicerat omnes,
Da te etiam victor quando reſurget erit.

Which has been thus engliſhed.

At length he falls, the long—long conteſts o'er,
And Time has thrown, whom none e'er threw before,
Yet boaſt not, Time, thy victory, for he
At laſt ſhall riſe again, and conquer thee.

About ſix miles to the north by eaſt of Bunny is NOTTINGHAM, the principal town in the county

ty to which it gives its name. It was called by the Saxons Snottingaham, from the caves they found in the rocks, which are ſuppoſed to have been inhabited by the Britons, before the time of their arrival, and is pleaſantly ſeated on a rocky hill facing the ſouth, on the north ſide of the Leen, and near a mile north of the Trent, which is navigable here for large barges; twenty-five miles north of Leiceſter, ſixteen eaſt of Derby, thirty-two ſouth-weſt of Lincoln, and twenty-five north by weſt of London.

Nottingham is undoubtedly one of the moſt ancient towns in Great-Britain. John Rouſe, a monk of Warwick, who wrote in the reign of king Henry the Seventh, places its foundation nine hundred and eighty years before the birth of Chriſt; and ſays, that king Ebranc built this town upon the Trent, on an eminence called Dolorous-hill, from the great ſlaughter of the Britons made there by king Humber, in the reign of Abbanact. Indeed, it is a general obſervation, that the writers of hiſtory, fond of the marvellous, have endeavoured to extend the origin of nations and cities, to the moſt diſtant ages, and of involving their origin in fables. However Dr. Stukeley obſerves, that Nottingham ſeems to be as ancient as the time of the Britons; for as ſoon, ſays he, as they had proper tools, they fell to work upon the rocks, which every where offered themſelves ſo commodiouſly for affording them places of retirement and ſhelter; and Dr. Deering obſerves, that theſe works were probably performed long before the arrival of the Romans. Indeed, the whole town is, in a manner, undermined with caverns of an amazing depth and extent; ſo that it is even queſtioned, whether all the buildings on the ſurface of the rock would fill up the vacancies underneath. Hence the cellars cut in the

the rocks, are frequently as deep as the higheſt houſes; and in digging for foundations of new houſes, there have been ſometimes diſcovered ſpacious caverns, before unknown; ſome of theſe are ſaid to have been arched, in a regular manner, to have been ſupported by columns, and to have had a communication with each other, by paſſages leading to very diſtant parts.

It is univerſally allowed, that the Corniſh Britons were ſkilled in mining, before the arrival of the Romans; but whether theſe ſubterraneous works are of ſo ancient a date, it is impoſſible to determine. Dr. Deering ſuppoſes, from there being ſomething of the Gothic order obſervable in theſe ſtructures, that they were formed during the heptarchy, when the Danes, who were Pagans, made frequent inroads into this part of the kingdom, and intended as places of refuge, to which they might betake themſelves in time of danger, and exerciſe their religious functions, without being expoſed to the fury of thoſe perſecuting idolaters. If what that gentleman obſerves, with reſpect to the Gothic appearance of theſe caverns be true, his conjecture is highly probable; but if this particular is only imaginary, it is more natural to ſuppoſe, that they were formed before the arrival of the Romans, and that afterwards they might be rendered places of ſecurity for their wives and children, druids, and old men, while the warriors, were engaged in fighting for their country at a diſtance from home; and that afterwards the Britons enlarged theſe ſubterraneous dwellings, and rendered them places of refuge againſt the barbarities exerciſed by the Saxons, when they extended their dominions over South Britain, and obliged numbers of the brave inhabitants to ſhelter themſelves among the barren mountains of Wales.

It does not appear that Nottingham was a Roman ſtation, it being ſituated at a diſtance from any of their roads, and no Roman antiquities are known to have been found there: but there is no doubt of its being inhabited by the Saxons ſoon after their arrival, and that they very early erected fortifications there. For the Danes, when they ravaged this iſland, came to Snottingaham, as it was then called, in the year 852, where they were beſieged by Bethred, king of the Mercians, but without ſucceſs, they having taken poſſeſſion of a ſtrong fortreſs placed on the rock, on which the caſtle was afterwards built; but in 864, Ethelred, king of the Weſt-Saxons, and his brother Alfred, joining the above prince, marched with all their forces, inveſted this fortreſs, and obliged the Danes to enter into a capitulation, in which they promiſed to retire, and leave the kingdom; yet two years after they returned, and again took poſſeſſion of Nottingham, where they took up their winter quarters; but they were ſoon obliged to leave it, and to retire into the north.

King Edward the Elder, the ſon of Alfred, encompaſſed the town with a wall, which is now entirely demoliſhed: though one of the gates was ſtanding in the memory of man, and the names of the reſt are preſerved in thoſe of the ſtreets which led to them. Camden and Hollinſhead affirm, that the caſtle was built by William the Conqueror, which is certainly true, though Dr. Thoroton, who wrote the hiſtory of the county, maintains, that it was built by William de Peverel, his natural ſon, whom that prince not only made earl of Nottingham, but gave him the cuſtody of the caſtle, and of Shirwood-foreſt. In the reign of Henry the Second, his ſon William loſing the caſtle, was ſo exaſperated, that he demoliſhed the town, which continued in a ruinous condition

condition till Henry the Second, being peaceably ſettled on the throne, aſſiſted the inhabitants in rebuilding it, and granted them a new charter.

In the year 1194, king Richard the Firſt called a great council, or parliament here; and king John here cauſed twenty-eight Welch gentlemen, who had been delivered to him as hoſtages, for the peaceable behaviour of their countrymen, to be hanged, on account of the Welch having again taken up arms againſt him.

In the reign of Edward the Third, a great council met at this town, when the king being made ſenſible of the miſchiefs than enſued from the vile actions of Roger Mortimer, earl of March, who was too familiar with the queen mother, and under the ſhelter of her authority, was inflamed with ſuch pride and arrogance, as to be guilty of the moſt arbitrary proceedings, thought it neceſſary to bring him to condign puniſhment. Upon this the king privately ordered Sir William Montague, conſtable of the caſtle, to take to his aſſiſtance ſeveral truſty perſons, to put the advice of the council into execution. Theſe got into the caſtle by a ſecret winding aſcent, unknown to the queen and Mortimer, cut from the bottom of the rock to the top, and entered the room next to the queen's lodgings, where they found the earl with Henry, biſhop of Lincoln, and ſome others, who for ſome time ſtood on their defence; but two of their company being ſlain, the reſt were taken priſoners. The earl of March was taken down through the above paſſage, and ſent to London, where, at the meeting of the parliament, articles of impeachment were preferred againſt him, and he was ſentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered, which was executed at the common gallows, called the Elms, near Smithfield. This private paſſage, which is without the town and caſtle

caſtle walls, was probably made long before, and intended to relieve the caſtle with men and proviſions, in caſe the town ſhould be in the poſſeſſion of an enemy; but from the above circumſtance it obtained the name of Mortimer's hole, by which it is ſtill called.

Edward the Fourth ſo much enlarged, and adorned the caſtle, that it ſeemed in a manner new built, and his brother Richard the Third, made farther improvements, and rendered it one of the compleateſt fortreſſes in the kingdom. David, king of Scotland, was kept priſoner here, before he was ſent to London, and during his confinement, is ſaid to have carved the hiſtory of Chriſt's paſſion, and other curious ſubjects in relief on the walls of his priſon; but as he was ill of his wounds while he continued there, theſe works were probably performed, if they were not done before, by one of his attendants.

The ſituation of the caſtle on a ſteep rock, and the ſtrength of its fortifications, rendered it impregnable by ſtorm; tho' in the barons wars it was taken by ſurprize. In the civil wars king Charles the Firſt ſet up his ſtandard here, but it became afterwards a garriſon for the parliament. From the Rutland family (to which it was given before the civil wars) it came by the mother's ſide to the duke of Buckingham, and he ſold it to William Cavendiſh, marquis and afterwards duke of Newcaſtle, who laid the foundation of the preſent noble ſtructure, which was finiſhed in the year 1679.

In ancient times Nottingham contained ſeveral religious houſes for monks of different orders; thus, a houſe of Carmelite or White friars ſtood between St. James's-lane, and Friar-lane, ſaid to be founded by Reginald, lord Grey of Wilton, and Sir John Shirley, Knt. about the year 1276. In the ſtreet called Broad-Marſh,

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was a houſe of Grey friars, ſaid to have been founded by king Henry the Third, in the year 1250. In a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, in the rock under the caſtle, was a cell of two monks, about the reign of king Henry the Third; and about the ſame time there ſeems to have been alſo a college of ſecular prieſts in the caſtle. There was likewiſe a houſe called St. John Baptiſt's, at the foot of the caſtle-rock, belonging to the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, for whom the archbiſhop of York made ſeveral rules or orders; but this was ſuppreſſed long before the other houſes of that order in England underwent the ſame fate. Here was likewiſe an hoſpital as old as the reign of king Henry the Third, dedicated to St. Leonard. Near the Leen bridge was an hoſpital, founded by John Plumptree, in the reign of Richard the Second, for two chaplains, thirteen poor widows, and ſeveral poor men. There was alſo in the church of St. Mary three chantries, viz. the chantry of St. Mary, St. James's, and Amyas, and a guild or fraternity of ſix prieſts, called the guild of the Trinity. There was in St. Peter's church a guild of St. George, and a chantry of St. Mary; and alſo in the church of St. Nicholas another.

This town was incorporated long before king Henry the Second gave it a charter; for in Edward the Confeſſor's time it had a hundred and ſeventy-three burgeſſes. Many of our kings have in this town kept their court, and aſſembled here ſeveral parliaments. It was anciently governed by two bailiffs, coroners, and a common-council. King Edward the Firſt impowered them to chooſe a mayor annually. Henry the Sixth, in the twenty-ſeventh year of his reign, made it a county of itſelf, changed the bailiffs into ſheriffs, and appointed it to be governed by a mayor and burgeſſes. It is

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at preſent governed by a mayor, ſix aldermen, a recorder, two ſheriffs, two coroners, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and twenty-four common-councilmen, of whom there muſt be ſix who have not ſerved the offices, either of ſheriff or chamberlain. The mayor and aldermen are dreſſed in ſcarlet gowns, and the mayor and ſheriffs have each two ſerjeants at mace. Here are likewiſe a middleton jury; which is probably a contraction of middletown jury; they being ſummoned every half year from the people of the town, and are to obſerve and preſent all encroachments and nuiſances both in the town itſelf, and in the county of the town, which is twelve miles in circumference. Beſides, there are two officers, called Pindars, one the Pindar of the fields, the other of the meadows: the Pindar of the fields is alſo woodward of the town, which lies in the juriſdiction of the foreſt of Shirwood, and is likewiſe to attend the foreſt-courts. Here is an uncertain number of burgeſſes, called the Clothing, and about twelve hundred other burgeſſes. The town is divided into ſeven wards, anſwering the number of aldermen, each of theſe having one of them committed to his care, though he is not confined to live in it; and as a juſtice of peace, his power extends throughout all the liberties of the town. The corporation is poſſeſſed of ſeveral fine eſtates, ſome of which are applied to general, and other to particular uſes. Beſides which, there are many pieces of land ſufficient to keep one or two horſes, or cows, that are appropriated to the uſe of the members of the corporation, and ſuch of the burgeſſes as are advanced in years, particularly an incloſure, called the Over-Trent-Cloſe, which is divided among the ſeven aldermen, and of which each becomes entitled to his ſhare at the time of his election, and enjoys it during his life; and their wi-

dows

dows have the option of the firſt burgeſs's part that falls. There are, indeed, upwards of two hundred and ninety burgeſſes parts belonging to the freemen of the town, for which they pay no rent, and which are eſteemed worth from 3 l. to 20 s. a year value, which they enjoy, not only in their turn of ſeniority, during the remainder of their lives, but their widows poſſeſs them after their death, as long as they continue ſingle, and live in the town: and though a burgeſs ſhould die before one of theſe parts or lots falls to his ſhare, yet if his wife ſurvives him, and continues a widow, ſhe is intitled to his turn.

This town, which is eſteemed one of the pleaſanteſt in England, is larger than moſt cities, and ſeated on the ſides and top of a rock. The houſes are extremely well built, and moſt of thoſe in the market-place, and the principal ſtreets near it, have their fronts ſupported by lofty ſtone columns, which make a handſome appearance, and at the ſame time afford ſhelter in bad weather. The ſtreets are well-paved, and from their ſituation on a rock, are always clean, except on the out-ſkirts of the town. Here are, as we have already intimated, three churches; St. Mary's, and St. Peter's, are very handſome Gothic ſtructures, particularly St. Mary's, which reſembles a cathedral. Part of the ſouth ſide has been lately rebuilt in a manner conformable to the reſt of the ſtructure: the weſt end has been alſo rebuilt: but this is done in the Doric order. Here is the principal gate, fronting which, before the entrance of the choir, the organ is ſupported by four lofty ſtone columns of the Ionic order, which, though not ſtrictly proper, in a Gothic ſtructure, have a pleaſing effect. This church has a handſome ſquare tower, in which is a ring of ten bells. St. Peter's church, though not ſo large, is alſo a handſome

ſome ſtructure, and has a lofty ſpire, in which are eight bells, and the altar-piece is adorned with a painting of the laſt ſupper. St. Nicholas's is a ſmall neat ſtructure, built with brick and ſtone. There are here alſo eight meeting-houſes, moſt of which are very large and well filled. Here is a handſome town-hall, in which the ſeſſions and courts for the corporation are kept, and the aſſizes are likewiſe held, beſides a county-hall, juſt built upon a very elegant plan. The town abounds with gentlemen's houſes: before the front of one of theſe, in a ſtreet called the High pavement, is an opening made on the other ſide the way, and here the ſtranger is ſurprized with ſeeing through the rails a garden, beyond which an unbounded proſpect ſuddenly breaks upon his view, from an eminence equal to the height of ſeveral houſes. The meadows, at a conſiderable depth below, ſpreading to a very great extent, with the Trent winding along, and the view carried as far as the eye can reach.

The principal market-place is not only one of the largeſt, but one of the fineſt and beſt ſupplied in England. On one ſide of it is a range of very lofty buildings, under which is a broad and handſome piazza, called the Exchange. In the center of the building is a pediment, in which is a very large clock, and on the apex ſtands the ſtatue of Juſtice. At the other end of the market-place is a very handſome croſs, an open building with a dome, ſupported by ſix lofty Doric columns, with an aſcent on each ſide by ſtone ſteps, which encompaſs it. This market is kept every Saturday, and is ſupplied with an amazing quantity of corn, proviſions, homeſpun-linen, earthen ware, and a variety of other articles. There are properly two other market-places, one called the Hen-croſs, where there is a very lofty column, placed upon ſteps, and this market, which is alſo

kept on Saturdays, is only for eggs, young pigs, poultry, and all ſorts of tame and wild fowl; in a different part of the town is another market-place, for all kinds of proviſions, on Wedneſdays and Fridays.

The caſtle, which is the greateſt ornament of the town, is ſeated at the weſt end of it, and is inacceſſible any other way than from the town. From the outer lodge there is a gradual aſcent for a conſiderable diſtance, and then ſeveral noble flights of ſteps leading up to it, with a coach-way gradually winding to the top of the rock. The building is of ſtone, and extremely magnificent. The principal front is of ruſtic, adorned with columns and pilaſters of the Corinthian order. In the center is an equeſtrian ſtatue of the marquis of Newcaſtle, placed in a niche: under which, two flights of ſteps, adorned with handſome baluſtrades, lead up to the principal entrance. Round this noble ſtructure is a conſiderable ſpace paved with flag ſtones, and ſecured by a wall capped with ſtone, to prevent any danger from the precipice, which ſurrounds a conſiderable part of the building. On every ſide is an unbounded view of the country: to the eaſt you ſee the whole town over the tops of the houſes, with the fields, woods, and encloſures as far as the eye can reach. On another ſide the meadows appear for twelve or fourteen miles, like an extenſive bowling-green, with the rivers Trent and Leen running through it. You have a view of Belvoir caſtle in Lincolnſhire, and of the villages, ſeats and gardens of ſeveral of the nobility. The weſt end affords a fine view of the park and the diſtant country.

The park conſiſts of very uneven ground, but has a level walk on the edge which encompaſſes great part of it. From this walk you have on one ſide a view of the country, and on the other,

of

A Street *or* Row *of* Cells *in* Nottingham Park, *with a View of the* Caſtle.

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of a ſteep deſcent with many little riſings, which diverſify the valley at the bottom, and have a very agreeable effect; but the trees were cut down during the civil wars, and the deer, which belonged to the late duke of Newcaſtle, have been removed. On the ſouth-weſt ſide of this park are a range of caves, cut in a perpendicular rock, in which is hewn out a church, houſes, and a variety of apartments leading from one to another. The church reſembles thoſe in the rocks at Bethlehem, and other places in the Holy Land. The altar, as well as the reſt, is natural rock; the whole is plainly the work of art, and the pillars have ſome diſtant reſemblance of the Gothic architecture; there have been paintings on ſome of the walls; and there is an opening above, which ſeems to have anſwered the purpoſe of a ſteeple, in which a bell probably hung. Great part of theſe ſubterranean ſtructures, which are certainly of very great antiquity, have fallen down, and the river Leen runs through ſeveral of the caverns. It is probable that theſe were originally hewn out of the rock by the ancient Britons, before the landing of the Romans, and that afterwards they became the dwellings of ſome anchorets, who formed a great part of them into a chapel, which they endeavoured to make it reſemble, by cutting the top into ſomething like Gothic arches, and giving a Gothic air to the pillars that ſupport the rock above. Of theſe caves we have given a view.

But to return to the town: in the ſouth part of it there are a few little houſes, if they may be called by that name, cut in the perpendicular rock, with doors and glaſs windows; and in the ſkirts of the town next the foreſt, there are ſome inſtances of gardens, with the chimney riſing amidſt beds of plants and flowers; and upon encompaſſing the garden, to find the houſe to which the

chimney belongs, the rock is ſeen cut perpendicular to a conſiderable depth; with a front perhaps plaſtered over, and good glaſs windows, with a little area before it, and ſteps cut in the rock leading down to the entrance.

Nottingham had a bridge over the Trent above a hundred years before the conqueſt, built by order of king Edgar; this is a ſtately ſtructure built with ſtone, conſiſting of nineteen arches; and as that river ſometimes overflows the meadows, there is a cauſeway, conſiſting of planks ſecured with a rail, erected for foot paſſengers by the ſide of the road, above half a mile in length, almoſt from the Trent bridge to another over the Leen. The town is ſupplied with plenty of water by a ciſtern of a prodigious ſize and depth cut out of the ſolid rock, on a hill ſomewhat higher than the town, to which the water is raiſed by an engine placed on the bank of the Leen, and from the above ciſtern runs to every houſe in the town.

There is here a play-houſe, and two handſome aſſembly rooms. Nottingham is one of the twelve towns where the king's plate of a hundred guineas is run for, beſides many other plates. Theſe races are kept in July, and the courſe, which is in Shirwood-foreſt, and was formerly four miles round, is at preſent only two; on which account, it is twice run over at every heat. It is one of the beſt in England, and is never out of order for running, be the weather what it will.

There are here alſo a free grammar-ſchool, founded in the year 1513, for a maſter and uſher; two charity-ſchools, one for fifty children, forty of whom are cloathed in blue; and the other for thirty. An hoſpital erected by John de Plumptree, in the reign of Richard the Second, and endowed for thirteen poor women, and two chaplains, in which are at preſent ſeven widows, who have

have an allowance of five ſhillings a month each, and a ton of coals every year; Handley's alms-houſe for twelve poor people; Wartnaby's alms-houſe for the maintenance of ſix people, three men and three women, who have each a gown every two years, and annually a cart-load of coals; Bilby's alms-houſe for eight poor perſons, who are allowed a two-penny loaf a week, and a ton of coals yearly; Labourer's alms-houſe for ſix decayed frame-work-knitters, who receive every Friday one ſhilling and ten-pence; Collin's hoſpital, commonly called the New-hoſpital, conſiſts of habitations for twenty-four poor men and women, each of whom has two ſhillings a week, and annually a ton and a half of coals. Theſe are very neat buildings, placed in a delightful ſituation. Beſides theſe, there are Willoughby's, Woolley's, and Patten's hoſpitals, or alms-houſes, with many other charitable foundations.

Nottingham is well ſupplied with river-fiſh from the Trent, and with ſea-fiſh by land-carriage. Its principal trade conſiſts in fine wove ſtockings, the hoſiers of Nottingham employing ſeveral thouſand ſtocking frames in the town, and the neighbouring villages. There is here alſo a great manufactory of earthen ware, which is ſent to great part of England and Scotland, as well as London; and more malt is ſaid to be made here than in any other town in England, which is ſent into ſeveral of the neighbouring counties. It has four fairs, held on the 13th of January, the 7th of March, and the Thurſday before Eaſter, for horſes, and horned cattle; and on the 2d, 3d, and 4th, &c. of October, which is called Gooſe-fair, and is not only for horſes, and horned cattle, but for prodigious quantities of cheeſe, which are bought up by the London factors, and many other articles.

The avenues about Nottingham are extremely delightful; the proſpects from the caſtle, and the park at the weſt of the town, are exceeding fine; on the north there are pleaſant fields, and the natural uncultivated beauties of Shirwood-foreſt, a fine ſporting country. On the north-eaſt end is a pleaſing mixture of hills and vallies, woods and paſtures, in which the proſpects on all ſides are every minute changing. On the ſouth-eaſt is a pleaſant walk to a neat coffee-houſe near Snenton, which, from its uncommon ſituation, it would be unpardonable to omit. On approaching it from Nottingham, you paſs by a long ledge of perpendicular rocks, at the foot of which are placed a range of cottages, with little gardens before them. The coffee-houſe being built upon an eminence, has a broad flight of ſteps leading up to it, and here the rock, inſtead of being naked, or only overgrown with buſhes, is cut into ſeveral delightful terraces, and the intermediate ſpaces covered with fragrant ſhrubs, and a profuſion of flowers. Theſe terraces riſing above the neighbouring houſes, and even the roof of the coffee-houſe, afford the moſt delightful proſpects of the meadow beneath, with the Trent winding its ſtream, and flowing under the arches of the bridge, and on turning your eye to the left, you ſee Colwick woods, like a hanging garden ſloping down the ſide of a lofty eminence.

At the diſtance of about a mile and a half weſt of Nottingham is LENTON, a village where William Peverell, earl of Nottingham, the natural ſon of William the Conqueror, and Adelina his wife, built a priory in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Firſt, which was dedicated to the Trinity, and rendered ſubordinate to the abbey of Cluney in Normandy. He endowed it with the village of Lenton, and ſeveral other eſtates.

Henry

Henry the Firſt confirmed all theſe gifts, and granted it a fair that was to laſt eight days, which is ſtill kept at Martinmaſs, tho' like moſt of the other country fairs, it is dwindled almoſt to nothing; yet it was originally ordered, that no man ſhould buy or ſell at Nottingham during this fair, and that all perſons coming and going ſhould be free from all actions at law. This priory was made denizen, in the ſixteenth year of Richard the Second, and continued till the general diſſolution, when its annual revenues were valued by Dugdale, at 329 l. 15 s. 10 d. Here was alſo an hoſpital dedicated to St. Anthony, and a houſe of Carmelite friars, but we find no particulars recorded in relation to them.

At WILFORD, a village built on the ſouth ſide of the Trent, was dug up ſome years ago, a large pot, in which was a great number of Roman copper coins.

On a hill near BARTON, to the ſouth of Nottingham, are the remains of a camp, ſuppoſed to have been Britiſh, from ſeveral ancient coins found in it.

At HOLM-PIERPOINT, a village ſeated on the ſouth ſide of the Trent, three miles eaſt of Nottingham, is a fine ſeat belonging to the duke of Kingſton, adorned with ſpacious gardens.

At RUDDINGTON, about four miles ſouth of Nottingham, William Babington founded a college in the reign of Henry the Sixth, for a warden and four chaplains, which, at the ſuppreſſion, was endowed with revenues valued at 30 l. a year.

CLIFTON, a village ſeated on the Trent, about four miles ſouth-weſt of Nottingham, is the ſeat of the family of the Cliftons. The houſe is ſituated on the ſide of a hill, and the gardens ſlope down the ſide in ſeveral terraces towards the

Trent. On the top of the hill has been lately built a handſome room, which commands a view of the caſtle of Nottingham, and the adjoining meadows, with the Trent, winding its ſtream through them. The plantations about this ſeat, which were made by the late Sir Gervas Clifton, are very delightful.

Three miles to the weſt of Nottingham is WOLLATON-HALL, the ſeat of the lord Middleton, one of the fineſt Gothic buildings in England. It was erected in the reign of queen Elizabeth; is built of ſtone in a noble taſte, and encompaſſed by a very delightful park, walled round and planted with timber, and the gardens are very extenſive. In theſe is a pretty ſummer-houſe, pannelled and cieled with looking-glaſs, under which is a grotto covered with ſhell-work, coral, and the like.

Seven miles to the ſouth-by-weſt of Nottingham is GOTHAM, a village, the inhabitants of which have been for ages paſt, unjuſtly ſtigmatized for their ſtupidity, and ironically called the Wiſe Men of Gotham. Many ridiculous fables are handed down by tradition, of the innocent inhabitants of this village, particularly that having often heard the cuckow, but never ſeen her, they hedged in a buſh, whence her note ſeemed to proceed, that being confined within ſo ſmall a compaſs, they might, at length, ſatisfy their curioſity; and to favour this ſtory, at a place called Courthill in this pariſh, is ſhewn a buſh called by the name of Cuckow-buſh. Indeed, it has been a cuſtom among all nations to ſtigmatize the inhabitants of ſome particular ſpot for their folly. Thus the opprobrious diſtrict among the Greeks was Boeotia, and among the Thracians, Abdara, and in England, as we have juſt obſerved, it is Gotham.

At

At KNIVERTON, a village ſeated near the ſouth bank of the Trent, about ſeven miles from Nottingham, on a conſiderable cliff, is the ſeat of Sir Charles Molineux, Bart.

At LANGAR, about nine miles eaſt-by-ſouth of Nottingham, is the principal ſeat of the lord viſcount How, which is adorned with a fine park, well ſtocked with deer. The houſe, ſince the death of the late lord How, governor of Barbadoes, has been much beautified by the lady Pembroke, his lordſhip's ſiſter, who chooſing to reſide at this ſeat, during his preſent lordſhip's minority, adorned it at her own expence, with a fine front of ſtone towards the garden.

At STANFORD, a village ſeated on the river Soar near Loughborough in Leiceſterſhire, in the moſt ſouthern part of this county, Mr. Camden tells us, there were many remains of antiquity in his time, and Roman coins were ſometimes found; but it is probable he was miſinformed, as nothing of that kind has been found there ever ſince.

At BEAUVALE, a village four miles north-weſt of Nottingham, was a priory of Carthuſian monks, founded by Nicholas de Cantilupe, in the ſeventeenth year of the reign of Edward the Third, who dedicated it to the Trinity. About the time of the diſſolution here were a prior and about nineteen monks, and the revenue of the priory was valued at 196 l. a year.

At FELLEY, about a mile north-weſt of Beauvale, was a convent of Black canons, founded by Ralph Brito, and Reginald de Anneſley his ſon, in the year 1156. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had five or ſix religious at the ſuppreſſion, when its revenue was valued at 40 l. 19 s. 1 d. per annum.

We ſhall now proceed north-by-weſt through Shirwood-foreſt to Mansfield, a large, well built mar-

market town, on the weſtern ſide of the county, thirteen miles north-by-weſt of Nottingham, and a hundred and thirty-eight in the ſame point from London. Some pretend, that the firſt earl of Manſfield in Germany was in this town, and preſent when king Arthur celebrated the feaſt of the Round-table, but this deſerves no credit. It is much more certain, that our kings uſed to retire hither to enjoy the pleaſure of hunting in the foreſt of Shirwood. This appears in an old inquiſition, in which it is ſaid, that Henry Falconberg held the manor of Cukeney by ſergeantry for ſhoeing the king's horſe, when he came to Mansfield. It was anciently a royal demeſne; king Henry the Third granted it a market, and alſo the privilege of houſbote and haybote, out of his foreſt of Shirwood. It has a charity-ſchool for thirty-ſix boys, and a good market on Thurſdays, well ſtocked with corn, malt and cattle. It has alſo two fairs, held on the 29th of June, for horned cattle and hogs; and on the ſecond Thurſday in October, for horſes and cheeſe, but this laſt is called a Meeting, the town having no charter for a fair on that day. By the ancient cuſtoms of the manor of Mansfield, the tenants, both men and women, were at liberty to marry; the heirs of eſtates were declared to be at full age as ſoon as they were born, and the lands were equally divided among the ſons, and if there were no ſons, among the daughters.

At a ſmall diſtance to the north is MANSFIELD-WOOD-HOUSE, a genteel village, in a very pleaſant ſituation, in which are the houſes of ſeveral perſons of rank and fortune.

About two miles to the ſouth-weſt of Manſfield is SUTTON in ASHFIELD, a very large village, chiefly inhabited by farmers and ſtocking weavers, ſome of whom deal very largely to London, and others with the hoſiers of Nottingham.

Five

Five miles to the ſouthward of Mansfield is NEWSTED-abbey, which was founded by Henry the Second, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. He endowed it with the ſeveral poſſeſſions of the church of Paplewick, the waſhes of Kigel, Bavenſhead, &c. which was confirmed in the ſixth year of the reign of king John, and conveyed in the reign of Henry the Eighth to Sir John Byron, who was ſteward of Mancheſter and Rochdale, conſtable of the caſtle of Nottingham, and lieutenant of the foreſt of Shirwood. Its revenue was then valued at 219l. a year. This abbey has belonged to that gentleman's poſterity ever ſince, and is the ſeat of the preſent lord Byron. The greateſt part of the abbey is converted into a dwelling houſe, which is very large and convenient, though not regular. At the end is the beautiful frontiſpiece of the old abbey, in the Gothic taſte, and of very curious architecture. Large plantations and a park have been taken out of the foreſt and incloſed with pales.

Six miles to the eaſtward of Mansfield is RUFFORD, a village that had a monaſtery of Ciſtercian monks founded by Gilbert de Gaunt, earl of Lincoln, in 1148. He endowed it with lands which lay in ſeveral places; beſides which, many ſmall benefactions were made to it by other perſons. At the diſſolution it was valued at 176l. a year, by Dugdale; and at 254l. by Speed.

About ſix miles north of Mansfield is WARSOP, a village which has two fairs; the firſt on Whitſun-Monday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horned cattle and horſes.

EDWINSTOW is a village ſeven miles north-eaſt of Mansfield, where there is a fair on the 28th of October, for cattle, horſes and hogs.

About four miles north of Warſop, and ten north of Mansfield is WORKSOP, which is ſeat-

ed at the head of a ſmall river called the Ryton. Its market, which is on Wedneſdays, is remarkable for great quantities of liquorice and malt. It has three fairs, held on the 20th of March, the 21ſt of June, and the 3d of October, for cattle, horſes and pedlary. This town was formerly famous for its abbey, which was founded in the year 1103, by William de Lovetot, for canons regular of the order of St. Auguſtine, from which family it came to the Furnivals, and then to the Tolbots, earls of Shrewſbury, and their heirs, to have and to hold of that king in capite, by the ſervice of a knight's fee, with the royal ſervice of finding the king a right hand glove at his coronation, and to ſupport his right arm that day, while he held the ſceptre, paying yearly 23 l. 8 s. At the diſſolution it was valued at 139 l. a year, by Dugdale; and at 302 l. by Speed. There are only ſome of the walls remaining, but there is ſtill a handſome church, with two lofty tower-ſteeples at one end. Of the above ruins we have given an engraved view.

At Workſop manor, to the weſtward of Workſop, is a magnificent ſeat of the duke of Norfolk. The late ſtructure, which was one of the fineſt in England, and contained above five hundred rooms, was, in the year 1761, burnt down to the ground, together with a fine library, a curious collection of pictures, and other valuable furniture, when the damage was computed at 100,000 l. but it has been ſince rebuilt with ſtone, on a very ſuperb plan, with a fine front extending to a prodigious length.

At WELBECK, about two miles to the ſouth of Workſop, was an abbey of Premonſtratenſian canons, founded in the year 1153, by Thomas le Flemangh, and dedicated to St. James. It was the chief abbey of this order in England, and at the

The South West View of Worksop Abbey, *in the County of* Nottingham.

the diſſolution had an annual revenue of 249 l. 6 s. 3 d. There is but little of the old ſtructure remaining, which may be eaſily diſtinguiſhed by its antique windows. The other part is a noble building belonging to the duke of Portland, and is beautified with large additions, fine apartments, and good gardens. The park is well wooded, and contains ſome of the largeſt and oldeſt trees that are to be found in England, and is well ſtocked with a great number of deer.

At WALLINGWELLS, four miles north-weſt of Workſop, Ralph de Capreocuria, built and endowed a ſmall Benedictine nunnery in the reign of king Stephen, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was valued at the diſſolution at 48 l. 9 s. 10 d. a year.

Six miles north of Workſop is BLITH, or BLYTH, a town ſeated on the borders of Yorkſhire, and has a large church, and an hoſpital called Blith's ſpital, built by one of the family of Creſſy. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by Roger de Builly, and Muriel his wife, who gave to it the whole town and church of Blith, with all its appendages, beſides other lands. Idonea de Vipont, daughter and heireſs of Roger de Buſly, in the year 1232, confirmed to the monks all the gifts of her anceſtors. This monaſtery continued till the diſſolution, when its yearly revenues amounted to about 126 l. Here was alſo an hoſpital for a warden, three chaplains, and ſeveral leprous people, founded by William de Creſſy, lord of Holdeſac, which was valued at the diſſolution at 8 l. 14 s. a year. This was the hoſpital now called the Spital. Blith has a market on Wedneſdays, with a fair on Holy-Thurſday, for horned cattle and horſes; and on the 6th of October, for ſheep and hogs.

At

At MATTERSEY, a village to the north-eaſt of Blith, was a priory of Gilbertine canons, founded by Roger, the ſon of Ranulph de Mareſey, before the year 1192, and dedicated to St. Helen. At the ſuppreſſion it was valued at 130l. 13s. per annum.

Three miles north of Blith is BAUTRY, or BAWTRY, which is ſituated on the river Idle, partly in this county, and partly in Yorkſhire; but as the greateſt part of the town is in the laſt mentioned county, it will be proper to treat of it there.

At GRINGLEY, ſix miles eaſt of Bawtry, is a fair held on the 12th of December, for cattle and merchandize, particularly great quantities of boots and ſhoes.

We ſhall now turn to the eaſt, and enter the road which leads ſouth to REDFORD, or RETFORD. This town is ſeated on the river Idle, about three miles to the weſt of the great road from London to York, and five miles ſouth-weſt of Blith. It had the name of Redford, from a ford over the river Idle, and is ſometimes called Eaſt-Redford, from its ſituation on the eaſt bank of that river, and to diſtinguiſh it from a village ſituated on the oppoſite bank, and therefore called Weſt-Redford. It is a royal demeſne, and king Edward the Firſt granted the town in fee-farm to the burgeſſes, with power to chooſe two bailiffs for its government; but by a charter granted by king James the Firſt, it is at preſent governed by two bailiffs, a ſteward, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and two ſerjeants at mace. The bailiffs are diſtinguiſhed by the titles of ſenior and junior; the former of whom is choſen out of the aldermen, and the junior out of ſuch freemen as have been chamberlains. The bailiffs and ſteward for the time being are juſtices of the peace, and of the quorum within the borough.

borough. The church is a handſome, commodious ſtructure, and at the eaſt end, over the altar, is a picture of Chriſt's laſt ſupper with his diſciples. Here is a free grammar-ſchool, and a good town-hall, in which are held the ſeſſions for the town, and under it are the ſhambles. This town is ſeated among large plantations of hops, and carries on a conſiderable trade in hops and barley for malting. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on the 23d of March, and the 2d of October, for horſes and horned cattle. This town is joined to Weſt-Redford, by a ſtone bridge over the Idle; however they are two diſtinct pariſhes, and Weſt-Redford is only remarkable for its fine hoſpital, founded by Sir John Dorrel, doctor of phyſick, in the year 1666, and is governed by a maſter and ten brethren. The maſter's ſalary is 15 l. a year, and the ten brethren have each 10 l. beſides 10 s. for a load of coals every year, and ſix yards of cloth every other year. Twenty nobles is allowed to a ſteward, and fifteen ſhillings to a nurſe. There is a garden and orchard adjoining, divided into ten ſhares, for the ten brethren, and alſo an allowance of about 10 l. a year, for the maintenance of a ſcholar in Exeter-college, Oxford.

At TILNEY, a mile and a half north of Redford, was found, ſome years ago, a druidical amulet, conſiſting of a tranſparent ſtone of an aqueous colour, with ſtreaks of yellow. At the ſame time was diſcovered a Roman ſtylus, and ſeveral cornelians and agates, with engravings and Roman inſcriptions.

About nine miles eaſt of Redford is LITTLEBOROUGH, a village ſeated on the river Trent, and has long been famous for a ferry into Lincolnſhire. This is thought to have been a Roman town, called Agelocum, or Segelocum. It was

of

of a ſquare form, and ſeems to have been anciently encompaſſed with a ditch. Several Roman pavements, and foundations of ancient buildings, have been diſcovered on the eaſt ſide of the town, part of which has been waſhed away by the river; Roman urns have likewiſe been dug up, and Dr. Gale here ſaw an urn, which, beſides aſhes and bones, contained a coin of Domitian. In 1718 two altars were found in this place, and great numbers of Roman coins have, from time to time, been diſcovered by plowing and digging, with many other remains of antiquity; and on the eaſt ſide of the river, oppoſite to Littleborough, are ſtill to be ſeen the traces of an ancient camp.

Eight miles ſouth of Redford is TUXFORD, commonly called TUXFORD-IN-THE-CLAY, from its being ſituated in the diviſion called the South Clay. The town is not large, it being only about three furlongs in length, and is an ordinary dirty place. It is, however, a poſt town, and a good thoroughfare, in the poſt-road from Newark to York. Great part of this town was burnt down on the 8th of September, 1702, but it has been ſince rebuilt in a more handſome manner than before. Here is a good free-ſchool, built by Charles Read, Eſq; and endowed with 50 l. a year, for a maſter and uſher, 20 l. per annum, for boarding and teaching four miniſters ſons, or thoſe of decayed gentlemen, and 20 l. more, for teaching the boys of the town. The truſtees for this ſchool, are the mayor and aldermen of Newark, and ſix of the neighbouring gentlemen. There is here a good market on Mondays, and two fairs, held on the 3d of September, for horſes and hogs; and on the 12th of May, for horned cattle, ſheep, hogs, and millenary goods.

Seven

Seven miles eaſt of Tuxford is DUNHAM, or DUNHOLM, a village that has a fair on the 12th of Auguſt, for horned cattle and merchandize.

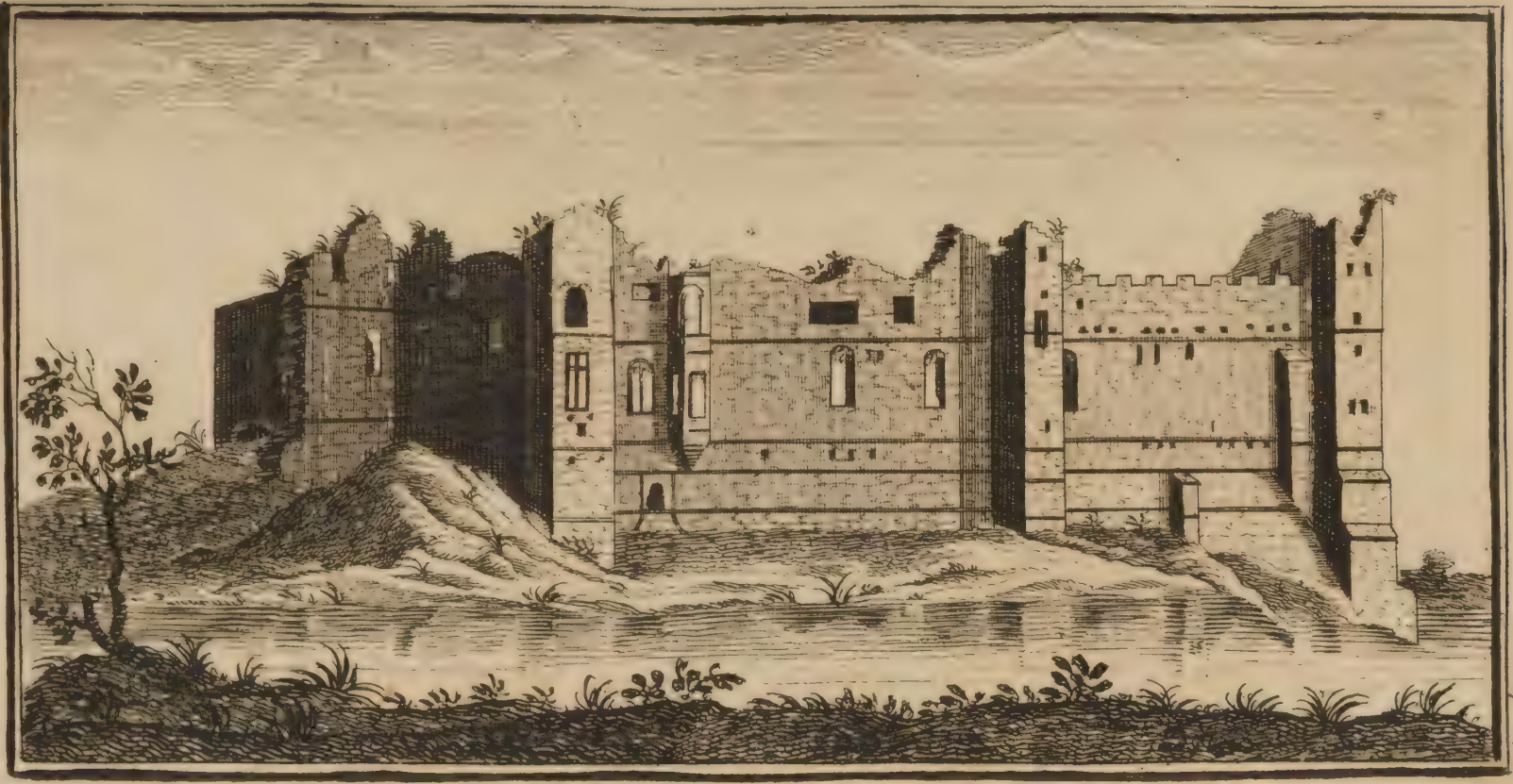
Eleven miles to the eaſtward of Tuxford is BRODHOLM, or BROADHAM priory, ſeated on the borders of Lincolnſhire, which was founded by Agnes de Camvile, wife of Peter Gouſla, about the end of the reign of king Stephen, for a prioreſs and nuns of the Premonſtratenſian order. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and its income at the diſſolution was valued at 16 l. 5 s. 2 d. a year.

At NORTH CLIFTON, a village ſeated on the eaſt ſide of the Trent, ſeven miles eaſt of Clifton, was a ſmall college for a warden and three prieſts, begun by Sir Robert, and finiſhed by his ſon Sir Gervas de Clifton, in the reign of Edward the Fourth. It was dedicated to the Trinity, and valued upon the diſſolution at 21 l. 2 s. 6 d. per annum.

Fourteen miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Tuxford is NEWARK, which is ſeated on the river Trent, a hundred and thirty-eight miles north-weſt of London, and fourteen miles north-eaſt of Nottingham. It derives its name from a caſtle, built in the reign of king Stephen, by Alexander, biſhop of Lincoln, and called the New Work, and from thence the town is ſaid to have taken its name. This caſtle was beſieged by the barons, but the garriſon, by their ſallies, ravaged and ſpoiled thoſe of their poſſeſſions and lands that lay near it. On the acceſſion of Henry the Third to the throne, the barons had obtained this caſtle, but Henry cauſed it to be reſtored to the biſhop of Lincoln. During the civil wars, it kept a ſtrong garriſon for king Charles the Firſt till the laſt, nor was it ever taken till that unfortunate prince put himſelf into the hands of the Scots army, which lay before

before it, and ordered the governor to deliver it up, after which it was demoliſhed: a great part of the walls are however ſtill ſtanding, and of theſe we have given a view. The river Trent, about two miles ſouth of the town, divides into two branches, which form a ſmall iſland, by uniting about two miles north of it. Newark is ſeated on the eaſtern branch, and has a bridge over each of them. The church is eſteemed one of the fineſt pariſh churches in England, of the Gothic kind, and all the windows are finely painted. Here are alſo ſeveral meeting-houſes. The town was firſt incorporated by king Edward the Sixth, and was governed by one alderman, and twelve aſſiſtants; but by a charter of king Charles the Second, it is at preſent governed by a mayor, and twelve aldermen. It is a handſome, flouriſhing, well built town, and has a noble market-place, ſo ſpacious, that lord Ballaſyſe drew up ten thouſand men in it, when he defended the town, for king Charles the Firſt, againſt the Scotch army. Here is a free-ſchool founded by Thomas Magnus, and a charity-ſchool for thirty-ſix boys, ſupported by voluntary contributions. This town ſends two repreſentatives to parliament, who are elected by the inhabitants paying ſcot and lot. It has a large market on Wedneſdays, and ſix fairs, held on the Friday before Paſſion-Sunday; and the Friday in Midlent, on the 14th of May, on Whitſun-Tueſday, the 2d of Auguſt, and the 1ſt of November, for horſes, horned cattle, ſheep, pigs, linen and woollen cloth; and on the Monday before the 11th of December, for horſes, horned cattle, ſheep and pigs.

Newark was formerly walled round; and ſome have thought that it was the Roman ſtation, called Ad Pontem, in the itinerary of Antoninus; but



The West Prospect of Newark Castle *in the County of* Nottingham

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but Horſley is of opinion, that that ſtation muſt be ſought for two or three miles ſouth-weſt of this town, though he makes no doubt of its having riſen out of the ruins of Ad Pontem on one ſide, and thoſe of Crocolana on the other. Some Roman coins have been found in the town, and Dr. Stukeley obſerves, that North Gate is ſomewhat like a Roman work.

A few miles to the north of Newark is COLLINGHAM, a village near the Foſſe-way, where there is the appearance of a Roman ſtation; and ſeveral coins of the emperor Conſtantine have been found there.

About four miles and a half from Newark is SOUTHWELL, generally called SUTHELL, which is ſeated on a ſmall ſtream, called the Greet, that falls into the Trent, about two miles ſouth of the town. It has a church, called a Minſter, that is both parochial and collegiate. It is ſaid to have been founded by Paulinus, the firſt archbiſhop of York, about the year 630. It was ſurrendered to the king in the thirty-ſecond year of Henry the Eighth; but three years after was refounded; reſtored to its ancient privileges, and incorporated by the name of the chapter of the collegiate church of the Bleſſed Mary, the Virgin of Southwell. Its privileges were confirmed by queen Elizabeth, and afterwards by king James the Firſt. This ſtructure was ſet on fire by lightning on the 5th of November, 1711, when all the body of it was burnt except the choir. In this fire, a ſet of excellent bells was melted, a fine organ conſumed, and other damages done to the value of 4000 l. It has, however, been repaired, and is a plain Gothic ſtructure, in the form of a croſs, with two ſpires at the weſt end, and a high tower in the middle, in which are eight bells. Its length from eaſt to weſt is three hundred and ſix feet, its breadth

breadth fifty-nine, and the length of the croſs iſle from north to ſouth, one hundred and twenty-one feet. It has no painted figures in the glaſs-work, nor images, nor ſo much as a niche capable of holding an image, whence it has been conjectured, that it was built before images were introduced into churches. There is a handſome chapter-houſe on the north ſide of the choir. To this church belong ſixteen prebendaries or canons, ſix vicars choral, an organiſt, ſix ſinging men, ſix choriſters, ſix boys, who attend as probationers, a regiſter to the chapter, a treaſurer, an auditor, a verger, and other officers and ſervants. Adjoining to the church is a free-ſchool, under the care of the chapter, where the choriſters are taught gratis, as well as other boys belonging to the town.

The maſter is choſen by the chapter, and muſt be approved by the archbiſhop of York. There are two fellowſhips, and two ſcholarſhips in St. John's college in Cambridge, founded by Dr. Keton, canon of Saliſbury, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, to be preſented by the maſter and fellows of that college, out of ſuch as have been choriſters in this church. The chapter has a peculiar juriſdiction over twenty-eight pariſhes, to moſt of which it has the right of preſentation, as well as to other pariſhes in Yorkſhire and Lincolnſhire. This juriſdiction is exerciſed by a vicar-general, or commiſſary, who is choſen by the chapter out of their own body, and holds viſitations twice a year. Beſides theſe, there are two annual ſynods, at which all the clergy in the county of Nottingham pay their attendance; and a certain number of the prebendaries of this church, and others of the conſiderable clergy, are by the archbiſhop of York, appointed commiſſioners to preſide at theſe ſynods.

South-

Southwell is divided into two parts, one called the Burgage, or Burridge, which comprehends all that part of the town which lies between the market-place, and the river Greet, where the inhabitants hold their lands or tenements of the lord, at a certain annual rent: the other part is called the Prebendage, and conſiſts of the liberties of the church. The civil government is here diſtinct from that of the county in general, and is called the Soke of Southwell and Scroby, a town near Blith. About twenty towns are ſubject to this juriſdiction: the cuſtos rotulorum, and juſtices of the peace for which, are nominated by the archbiſhop of York, and conſtituted by a commiſſion under the Great Seal.

Here are the ruins of a palace belongiug to the biſhop of York, which was demoliſhed in the civil wars; but by what remains it appears to have been a large and ſtately ſtructure, ſuppoſed to have been built by cardinal Wolſey, when he was archbiſhop of York; but others are of opinion it was erected by archbiſhop Booth, from the remains of a chapel, which ſtill bears his name. The archbiſhop of York had three parks here, which, tho' they are now diſparked, ſtill retain the name of parks; and notwithſtanding the archbiſhops have no ſeat here, they have ever ſince the conqueſt been lords of the manor, and by grant from the crown, enjoy great privileges in this town, they having the returns of writs on all their lands, tenements, and fees; and beſides the ſeſſions of the peace, which is kept by turns at Southwell and Scroby, by juſtices of their own nomination, they have a right to hold a court-leet over ſeveral townſhips. Southwell has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on Whitſun-Monday, for horſes, horned cattle, ſheep, ſwine, and merchandize.

Three

Three miles ſouth of Southwell is THURGARTON, a village where there was a priory of canons regular of the order of St. Auguſtine, founded and endowed with lands and tithes by Ralph de Ayncourt, about the year 1130. It had afterwards many benefactors, among whom were ſeveral of the family of the Villers, all which gifts were recited and confirmed by Henry the Second, and Edward the Third. At the ſuppreſſion its revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to 259l. 9s. 4d. a year; and according to Speed, to 359l. This building is, at preſent, a ſpacious dwelling-houſe, at the end of which is a church, with a fine high tower of curious Gothic workmanſhip.

Nine miles to the ſouthward of Newark, and ſeven miles to the weſtward of Nottingham, is BINGHAM, a ſmall market town, in which the parſonage is of great value; there is a charity-ſchool, with a market on Thurſdays, and three fairs, held on the 20th and 21ſt of February, for ſtrong horſes; and the firſt Tueſday in May, for horſes, horned cattle, ſheep and ſwine; and on the 8th of November, chiefly for foals and hogs. There was formerly in this town a college dedicated to St. Mary, which was valued at the diſſolution at 40l. 11s. per annum.

At about three miles to the north of Bingham is SIBTHORP, a village that has a church dedicated to St. Peter, in which is a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, wherein Jeffrey le Scroop founded a chauntry of ſeveral prieſts, in the reign of Edward the Second; and in the next reign this chauntry was raiſed to a conſiderable collegiate body, conſiſting of a warden, and eight or nine chaplains, with three clerks and other officers, by Thomas le Sibthorp, rector of Beckingham in Lincolnſhire. The annual

annual value of this chauntry, at its ſuppreſſion, was rated at 31 l. 1 s. 2 d.

Three miles north-weſt of Bingham is EAST-BRIDGEFORD, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from another village, ſeated to the ſouth-weſt near Nottingham. It is ſituated on the Trent near the foſſe-way, and there are ſtill to be ſeen the remains of a Roman ſtation, where many coins, urns, and other reliques of antiquity, have been found, among which was a ſilver coin of Veſpaſian. This ſtation Horſley ſuppoſes to be the Margidunum of Antoninus.

About two miles weſt of Bridgeford is SHELFORD, which is ſeated on the Trent, ſix miles north-eaſt of Nottingham. Near this village was an abbey of regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, erected by Ralph Hanſelyne, in the reign of Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and a little before its ſuppreſſion had twelve canons, whoſe yearly revenue, according to Speed, amounted to 151 l. 14 s. 1 d

At STOKE, three miles weſt of Bingham, and between four and five miles north-eaſt of Nottingham, was a very ancient and well endowed hoſpital, but its value at the diſſolution is not mentioned.

Eight miles to the ſouthward of Bingham is WILLOUGHBY-ON-THE-WOULD, which is ſeated on the edge of Leiceſterſhire, nine miles ſouth-by-eaſt of Nottingham, near the Foſſe-way. In a field belonging to this village, are ſaid to be the ruins of a town called Long Bellington, demoliſhed many ages ago. Roman coins are frequently found here, whence it has been thought to have been a Roman ſtation.

Among

Among the great men born in this county, were the following.

Thomas Cranmer, the moſt eminent archbiſhop that ever ſat in the ſee of Canterbury, was born of a good family, July the 2d, 1489, at Aſlacton in this county, and educated at Jeſus college in Cambridge, where, in 1523, he was made doctor of divinity. His firſt introduction to court was owing to the advice which he gave to king Henry the Eighth, with regard to his marriage with Catharine of Spain. This was to conſult all the univerſities of Europe; and Henry had no ſooner received this hint, than he ſwore, with more alacrity than delicacy, "that Cranmer had "got the right ſow by the ear." He immediately ſent for that divine to court, and diſpatched him as his ambaſſador into France, Italy and Germany; and he afterwards raiſed him to the ſee of Canterbury. From this time forwards, during the whole remaining part of that reign, and all the ſucceeding, Cranmer continued at the head of the church, and had likewiſe a conſiderable ſhare in matters of a civil nature. He divorced the king from Catharine of Spain; he married him to Anne Boleyn; he oppoſed the ſupremacy of the Pope, whom he even excommunicated; he promoted the diſſolution of the monaſteries, but diſapproved of the king's appropriating to himſelf the whole revenues of theſe religious houſes. He likewiſe oppoſed, with great vigour, the paſſing of the act, called the Six Articles. He had a hand in writing the *Biſhop's Book*, as alſo that entitled, *The neceſſary Erudition of a Chriſtian Man*; and he procured an order for reading the Engliſh Bible. But his zeal in promoting the reformation, expoſed him to the reſentment of the Catholics, who drew up an accuſation againſt him. The charge, however, was proved falſe, and his other

enemies ſubjected to a ſevere puniſhment. Upon the acceſſion of king Edward the Sixth, he crowned that prince, and, with the aſſiſtance of the other biſhops, compoſed the Homilies; and he likewiſe got an act of parliament paſſed, eſtabliſhing the book of Common-Prayer. But, on the death of king Edward, joining with the party of the lady Jane Gray, he was, upon the acceſſion of queen Mary, attainted of high-treaſon; and though he obtained a pardon for that crime, he was yet conveyed to Oxford, and there condemned for hereſy. He recanted, however, and even ſigned his recantation: but he afterwards recovered from his weakneſs, and being committed to the flames, he received the crown of martyrdom. So deeply was he affected with the laſt inſtance of his inconſtancy, that he held the hand, with which he had ſigned his recantation, in the flames, until it was burnt off, frequently exclaiming in the midſt of his torments, "this hand has offended." He was certainly a man of great probity and learning, and one of the chief authors, as well as one of the greateſt ornaments of the reformation. Some of his works were publiſhed in his life-time; others after his death; and ſome of them are ſtill in manuſcript.

John Holles, the firſt earl of Clare of that name, was deſcended from an ancient family, and born at Haughton in the county of Nottingham, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign. Upon his firſt going to the univerſity, which was in the thirteenth year of his age, he acquitted himſelf ſo well at his examination, that the maſter of the college embraced him tenderly, ſaying, *This child, if he lives, will prove a ſingular honour and ornament to this kingdom.* From the univerſity he removed to Gray's Inn, in London, where he ap-

plied himſelf for ſome time to the ſtudy of the law. His firſt ſtation at court was that of one of the gentlemen of the band of penſioners. He took, for his motto, the following ſentence, *Qui inimicum timet, amicum non amat*, i. e. He that fears his enemy, loves not his friend; a ſentiment well ſuited to his galiant ſpirit, of which he gave, on many occaſions, the moſt inconteſtible proofs. He diſtinguiſhed himſelf particularly in the wars of the Netherlands, in thoſe againſt the Turks, in the defeat of the Spaniſh armada, and in ſuppreſſing the Iriſh rebels. In the reign of king James the Firſt he was thrown into priſon; but after remaining there for a few weeks, he came out, to the ſurprize of every one, a baron of England, having paid for this dignity 10,000 l. to the then great favourite, the duke of Buckingham. About eight years after, viz. in 1624, he gave 5000 l. to the ſame potent nobleman, for the dignity of earl of Clare. Nevertheleſs, in the beginning of king Charles the Firſt's reign, he was one of the moſt violent enemies of this very duke; nor did his enmity terminate but with the death of the latter. He died on the 4th of October, 1637, in the ſeventy-third year of his age.

Denzil Holles, baron of Isfield, and ſecond ſon of John Holles, earl of Clare, was born at Haughton in Nottinghamſhire, in the year 1597. Being choſen a member of parliament in 1627, he and Mr. Valentine were the perſons, who held the ſpeaker of the Houſe of Commons forcibly in the chair, till the reſolutions of the Houſe were read. In 1641 he was one of the five members accuſed of high treaſon by king Charles the Firſt; in conſequence of which harſh treatment, he ſided with the parliament upon the breaking out of the civil war. He oppoſed, however, with great courage, their taking away the king's life, and the

the uſurpation of Cromwell; and afterwards heartily concurred in the reſtoration. For theſe inſtances of his loyalty, he was, by king Charles the Second, advanced to the dignity of a baron of England, by the ſtile of lord Holles of Iſfield, in the county of Suſſex. He died on the 17th of February, 1680, in the eighty-ſecond year of his age.

William Chappel, a worthy prelate of the laſt century, was born of obſcure parentage, at Lexington in Nottinghamſhire, December the 10th, 1582. After finiſhing his ſtudies at Cambridge, he was preferred, by the intereſt of Dr. Laud, then biſhop of London, to the deanery of Caſhel in Ireland, upon the promotion of dean Jones to the biſhopric of Killaloe. He afterwards became provoſt of Trinity-college in Dublin, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf greatly by his prudence and moderation; and, in 1638, he was advanced to the united biſhoprics of Cork, Cloyne and Roſs. In this ſtation he continued till the breaking out of the grand Iriſh rebellion, when he was obliged to leave the kingdom; and returning to England, he paſſed the reſt of his days at Derby, where he died upon Whitſunday 1649: he wrote ſeveral tracts, and is ſuppoſed by ſome critics to be the author of that excellent work, entitled, *The whole Duty of Man.*

John Lightfoot, a learned divine, and able commentator in the ſeventeenth century, was born at Stoke-upon-Trent, in this county, on the 19th of March, 1602. He had his education at Chriſt's college in Cambridge, where he took the degree of bachelor of arts. He afterwards became chaplain to Sir Rowland Cotton, by whoſe example and encouragement, he perfected himſelf in Rabbinical learning. He had once formed a deſign of travelling into foreign parts; but was perſuaded

to change his reſolution by the inhabitants of Stone in Staffordſhire, who choſe him their miniſter. Thence he removed to Hornſey near London, that he might enjoy the benefit of Sion-college library, in proſecuting his ſtudies. In 1642 he was elected miniſter of St. Bartholomew's behind the Exchange, and next year was nominated a member of the aſſembly of divines. In 1645 he was appointed to preach before the Houſe of Commons; and, in the ſermon which he delivered upon that occaſion, he recommended to the Houſe a Review and Survey of the Tranſlation of the Bible, and a ſpeedy, and effectual ſettlement of the church; and he expreſſed his joy at what they had done, in *Platforming Claſſes and Preſbyteries*; *which I verily and cordially believe*, ſays he, *is according to the Pattern in the Mount*. In the ſame ſermon, he inveighed, with great vehemence, againſt the folly of allowing an unreſtrained liberty of conſcience. In 1652 he took the degree of doctor in divinity; and about three years after was choſen vice-chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge. Upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he was in ſome danger of being deprived of his preferments; but by the good offices of archbiſhop Sheldon, and others, he was not only confirmed in the poſſeſſion of them, but was alſo preſented, by the lord-keeper Bridgeman, to a prebendary's place in the cathedral of Ely. He died of a fever, December the 6th, 1675, and was interred at Munden, of which pariſh he was rector. His works were publiſhed, firſt in two volumes, and afterwards in three volumes, folio. His harmony of the Old and New Teſtament is his moſt conſiderable performance.

OXFORD-

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORDSHIRE is an inland county, called by the Saxons Oxenfordſcire, and is bounded on the north-eaſt by Northamptonſhire; on the north-weſt by Warwickſhire; on the eaſt by Buckinghamſhire; on the ſouth by Berkſhire, and on the weſt by Glouceſterſhire; extending in its greateſt length about forty-two miles, and in its greateſt breadth from eaſt to weſt, twenty-ſix; and is about one hundred and thirty miles in circumference. Woodſtock, which is nearly in the center, is ſeated ſixty miles north-weſt of London.

This county, in common with Glouceſterſhire, was, at the invaſion of the Romans, inhabited by the Dobuni, of whom we have made ſome mention in our account of Glouceſterſhire: alſo the Anealites, a people mentioned by Caeſar, ſeem to have inhabited theſe parts, and are generally thought to have been ſeated at the ſouth end of the county. With regard to antiquities, few or none have been found that are Britiſh, except ſome pieces of their money, particularly ſome of Cunobelin, ſaid to be king here, at the time of the birth of our Saviour. It is remarkable, that all theſe Britiſh pieces are concave on one ſide, and convex on the other, and that they are all of gold, or at leaſt of a mixture of gold and ſilver. Ikenild-ſtreet, one of the four Roman principal ways in

England, enters Oxfordſhire out of Buckinghamſhire, at a village called Chinnar, and running ſouth-weſt, paſſes the river Thames into Berkſhire at Goring, about half way between Reading and Wallingford. The Akeman-ſtreet, a Roman conſular way, thus called from Akemanceſter, the ancient name of the city of Bath, to which it leads, enters this county from Buckinghamſhire near Bicester, and running ſouth-weſt through Woodſtock park, croſſes the rivers Charwell, Evenlode, and Windruſh, and enters Glouceſterſhire, to the ſouth-weſt of Burford. There are alſo ſtill the remains of one of the Roman vicinal ways, at preſent called Grimes-Dyke, which enters this county from Berkſhire, near Wallingford, croſſes the Thames, and running ſouth-eaſt, croſſes Ikenild-ſtreet, and paſſes the Thames a ſecond time near Henley in Berkſhire. This road appears for the moſt part a high cauſeway or bank, and in ſome places divides into two cauſeways, with a deep trench between them. Roman coins and medals, ſeveral pavements, urns, lachrymatories, and veſſels for oil, have been found in this county.

The air of Oxfordſhire is not inferior to that of any other county in England; for the ſoil being naturally dry, and free from bogs, fens, and ſtagnant waters, and abounding with quick limpid ſtreams, every thing concurs to render the air ſweet and ſalubrious.

The moſt conſiderable rivers of this county are the Thames, or Iſis, the Tame, the Charwell, the Evenlode, and the Windruſh. Of the Thames we have already given an account in treating of Middleſex; but it will be proper to obſerve here, that the people of Oxford call the Thames, before the Tame falls into it, by the name of Iſis, and the poets have frequently celebrated the junction

tion of theſe rivers under the agreeable fiction of the marriage of Tame and Iſis: but Mr. Camden obſerves, that the Thames did not receive its name from the junction of thoſe two rivers; but from the Saxon Temeſe, and that it was always called the Thames, before it received the Tame; which he proves from ſeveral charters, and the words of ancient hiſtorians; who mention the paſſage of troops over the Thames in Wiltſhire. He likewiſe obſerves, that the word Iſis is only known to ſcholars, the common people from its head to Oxford calling it by no other name but the Thames.

The Tame riſes in Buckinghamſhire, and entering Oxfordſhire, at a market town of its own name, runs weſtward for ſome miles, parting this county from Buckinghamſhire.

The Charwell has its ſource in Northamptonſhire, and entering Oxfordſhire near Cleydon, the moſt northern village in the county, runs ſouth, and falls into the Thames near Oxford. In this river is plenty of an uncommon fiſh, called the Finſcale; it is of the ſcaly kind, and ſomewhat like a roach, only all its fins, except thoſe at its gills, and that on its back, are much redder than thoſe of that fiſh. It has a full black eye, encompaſſed with a yellow iris. The fin on its back is of a dirty bluiſh colour; the ſcales, eſpecially near the back, are of a greeniſh yellow, and from the gills to the tail runs a crooked line.

The Evenlode riſes near a town of its own name, not far from Stow-in-the-Wold, a market town in Glouceſterſhire, and running ſouth-eaſt thro' Oxfordſhire, falls into the Thames to the north-weſt of Oxford.

The Windruſh riſes in Coteſwold-hills in Glouceſterſhire, and running ſouth-eaſt, enters Oxfordſhire near Burford, and paſſing by Whitney,

enters the Thames, to the ſouth-weſt of the Evendole.

Beſides theſe principal rivers, it has been obſerved by Dr. Plot, in his natural hiſtory of this county, that there are ſeventy leſſer ſtreams, beſides ſmall brooks, not worthy of notice.

In this county are alſo ſeveral mineral and petrefying ſprings, particularly Chadlington-water, ſo called from a village where it riſes, three miles ſouth of Chipping-Norton. This water ſmells like the waſhing of a foul gun, and a gallon yields ninety grains of ſediment, of which ſeven are earth, and the reſt a peculiar ſort of nitre. From other experiments it is found to be impregnated with ſulphur, and an alcaline ſalt mixed with ſea-ſalt. It is accounted a purging water.

At Clifton, a village two miles eaſt of Doddington, there is a clear water that has little taſte, which yields a peculiar kind of nitre, inclinable to an alcali. It is laxative, and uſed to cure diſeaſes of the ſkin in men and cattle, by bathing in it.

At Doddington, a ſmall market town north of Oxford, there is a ſtrong ſulphureous water, that ſmells like the waſhings of a foul gun. A gallon yields eighty-ſeven grains of ſediment, whereof forty-four are earth, and forty-three ſalt. It is impregnated with ſulphur and iron, both of which are very volatile; beſides which, it has ſalt enough to give it a purgative quality.

At Sommerton there is a rivulet that forms a ſmall caſcade of about ſeven feet, and has a petrefying quality, in conſequence of which blades of graſs of about half a year old are covered with ſtone, and hang down the bank like ſo many iſicles: the earth itſelf is covered over with a cruſt of ſtone. But it is very remarkable, that the blades of graſs thus covered, appear as green as before, and hang down

down to the length of a foot; yet the graſs may be taken by one end, and be pulled quite out as a knife from a ſheath. However, the ſame does not happen every where, for juſt on the other ſide of the river at North-Aſhton, the roots of ruſhes, graſs, moſs, and the like, are eaten away in ſuch a manner, that nothing remains after the petrefaction is compleated, except the figures of the plants, with ſome augmentation. In the ſuburbs of Oxford is alſo a ditch, whoſe water covers ſticks with a ſtony cruſt; and the water of a pump, at the Croſs inn, near Carfax, in that city, not only covers boards with a cruſt, but enters the pores of the wood, and rots it away by degrees, in ſuch a manner, that at length it becomes perfect ſtone.

It is obſervable, that petrifications of this kind are always brittle, and tho' they ſometimes ſhew the grain, yet they never preſerve the colour of the wood. However, they are incombuſtible in the fire, and undergo no other change, except becoming more white; and yet they will diſſolve in diſtilled vinegar; and the Sommerton cruſt wholly diſſolves with aqua fortis into a white ſubſtance.

As in this county there is one of the nobleſt ſeminaries of learning in the whole world, it is not at all ſurprizing that its natural hiſtory has been more minutely and accurately examined; and that by this means we are enabled to give a fuller account of its natural productions than of many other counties.

Beſides the different kinds of earth in this county, of which we ſhall hereafter take notice, there is found at Shottover the beſt oker in the world, which is of a yellow colour, very heavy, and of great uſe to painters. The vein dips from eaſt to weſt: it lies from ſeven to thirty feet deep, and is from two to ſeven inches thick.

Under the marle at Blund's court, there is found a native blue, but the quantity is ſo ſmall, that a ſufficient quantity cannot be obtained for the uſe of the painters, there being only a thin coat of it ſpread in the ſmall cavities of the earth, and on ſome other bodies.

Gritty umbers are found in all parts of the county, where there are quarries of ſtone; particularly a coarſe ſort near Whitney, and one ſomewhat finer at Bladen quarry. Theſe which are ſometimes found in the ſeams of rocks, and at others in the body of the ſtone, are uſed by the leather-dreſſers. A ſtill finer ſort has been dug up at Waterperry, of ſo rich and beautiful a colour, that it may be reckoned a kind of oker.

In the pariſh of Nettlebed is found an earth as red as bole-armenic, but it does not colour the hands like that.

There is alſo a white porous fine brittle earth, without either taſte or ſmell, that will diſſolve in water, tinge it of a milky colour, and ſometimes ferment with it. It is frequently found in the ſeams of the rocks, and is thought to be the ſame that Wormius calls Lac Lunae. The quarry-men ſay, that the finding of it is a ſign of there being good lime-ſtone near. The beſt, for quantity and goodneſs, is found in the pariſh of Comwell, where it is ſo pure, that its whiteneſs is not inferior to that of ſnow. It has been long uſed as a coſmetic, and its medicinal virtues are judged to be the ſame as thoſe of the Samian-earth, and to be of great uſe in ſtopping of blood, and in womens diſeaſes. There is another white earth found within round hollow flints, and may be had almoſt every where in the Chiltern country. When boiled in milk it is accounted good to ſtop fluxes, and has been uſed in conſumptions with good ſucceſs. The ſtone in which it grows,

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they here call the Chalk-egg, and is the ſame as the Geobes of the ancient naturaliſts.

The ſtones and foſſils found in this county are not leſs remarkable than the earths.

In the fields between Clifton and Newenham-Courtney, was found a ſtone, which repreſented a ſound piece of aſh, and when cut any way, its grain and colour were ſo lively, that any one, at firſt ſight, would take it for ſolid wood. In a gravelly ground, in the pariſh of Wendlebury, another was found reſembling a piece of oak; there even ſeemed to be the places where twigs had proceeded, and the knots where they were cut off; whence it has been thought to have been once real wood.

In a quarry called Langford-pits, in the pariſh of Kidlington, is found a black ſubſtance, reſembling wood half burnt, which will not ſwim when put in water, and in the fire conſumes but ſlowly, ſending forth diſagreeable fumes; ſome, however, make uſe of it for fuel. At Ducklington is a finer ſort, which, when broken, reſembles ſtone-pitch, and has not ſo bad a ſmell as the other.

With regard to the ſtones in Oxfordſhire, the Pyrites-aureus, or golden fire-ſtone, is found in great plenty in digging wells about Banbury and Cleydon. Theſe ſtrike fire extremely well with ſteel, and were formerly made uſe of for gun-flints. They are very heavy, and probably contain metal, but it cannot be extracted from them, on account of the great quantity of ſulphur, which carries it off in the crucible.

At Aſton-Rowant, Nettlebed, Henley, and all along the Chiltern country, they have another kind of marcaſite, which is on the inſide of a golden colour, and of a darkiſh ruſty colour without. When broken and laid in the ſun, it diſſolves into a ſalt that has the taſte of ink. This is probably of the ſame kind as that

uſed for making of coperas at Deptford. The ſilver marcaſite is white and glittering, and is found in the bottom of the river between Clifton and Burcot. It ſtrikes fire with ſteel, but will neither diſſolve in the air, nor ſend forth any efflorescence.

There is as great a plenty and variety of free-ſtone in this county, as in any other part of the kingdom. That in the quarry at Heddington near Oxford is fit for moſt uſes; and as it cuts very ſoft and eaſy, while in the quarry, it is greatly uſed in building. Here are alſo rag-ſtones of ſeveral kinds. There is a ſort dug up at Stansfield in thick pieces about Michaelmas, and after it has lain all the winter, will cleave into thinner plates. At Bradwell there is a ſort of flat ſtone that wants no cleaving. This is ſometimes found ſeven feet long, and five broad; and with theſe they commonly make mounds for their fields. Some of theſe are of ſo hard and cloſe a texture, that ſome painters grind their colours upon them, and prefer them to marble.

Fire-ſtone is found in ſeveral parts of the county; but the beſt is at Hornton, where is a ſpecies that ſeems to have iron coloured veins, and will take a tolerable poliſh.

In the pariſh of Blachington is a ſort of grey marble, of which ſeveral chimney-pieces have been made, and alſo the pillars of the porticos of St. John's college, Oxford. It alſo ſerves for tables, tomb-ſtones, and mill-ſtones for oil mills.

We ſhall now proceed to the formed ſtones, according to the method of Dr. Plot, and ſhall mention only a few of the moſt curious kinds. The aſteriae, or ſtar-ſtones, are plentifully found in the fields at Cleydon, the moſt northern pariſh in the county. Their texture conſiſts of plates lying obliquely, they are generally an inch and a half in compaſs, and if they are ſteeped a night in vine-

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gar, may be eaſily divided the next morning. Every joint conſiſts of five angles, like the rays repreſented for a ſtar, ſome of which are very obtuſe, and others very acute. The middle of each angle is a little hollowed, and in the center of the five angles a ſmall hole is viſible in moſt of them.

The aſtroites, or ſtarry ſtones, are of an irregular bulk, and adorned all over with ſtars; and of theſe there are four ſeveral ſorts in this county; two of theſe ſorts have the ſtars in mezzo relievo; that is, prominent and ſtanding outwards, with the ſtreaks running from the center. Theſe are found in the quarries of rubble-ſtone, near the foot of Shotover-hill. A third and more beautiful kind may be met with in the fields about Steeple-Barton; but theſe, quite contrary to the former, are deeply engraven like a ſeal, and ſtreaked from the prominent edges above, to the center in the bottom; theſe are generally hexagons. The fourth ſort, like the third, have ſtreaks that deſcend in a concave, but from edges that are generally round, or with five angles at the top, tending to a ſmooth center, which is a little prominent. Theſe are found in the quarries of rubble-ſtone, in Heddington pariſh; but the ſtars are not ſuperficial as in the former kinds, they paſſing thro' the depth of the ſtone. The property of the aſtroites of moving in vinegar, is more remarkable in the aſteriae, for theſe laſt will not only move in a whole joint, but in two or three of them connected together, whirling about in a briſker manner, and longer than any others. Dr. Lyſter, and other naturaliſts, think this motion is owing to the corroſion of the menſtruum, in which they are certainly right.

There are other ſtones which have been ignorantly thought to fall from the heavens, in ſtorms of thunder, and are called Brontiae and Ombriae.

Of

Of theſe there are ſeveral ſorts in this county, but they all agree in conſiſting of ſolid irregular hemiſpheres, and in being divided into five, generally unequal parts, by five rays proceeding from the center, and deſcending from it down the ſides of the body. They are never found in beds together, like ſome of the other formed ſtones; but at Tangley, Folbrook, and about Burford, they are found in great plenty. Though the texture is nothing but a coarſe rubble-ſtone, it is caſed over with a fine laminated ſubſtance. The colour is generally yellow, and the rays conſiſt of a double range of tranſverſe lines, with void ſpaces between them, that are plainly to be ſeen on the top of the ſtone. The whole body of the ſtone, as well as the ſpaces included within the rays, are filled with annulets, much more curiouſly wrought by nature than they could be by the engraver's tools.

There is a ſort of theſe that are more elevated, which are found ſomewhere in the Chiltern, and are, by the country people, called Cap-ſtones, from their reſembling a cap laced down the ſides. The rays of theſe are made up of two rows of points, ſet pretty deep in the body of the ſtone. There is another ſort, in which the center correſponds with the figure of the ſtone, and is not included within the rays, as in the former; from this center there deſcend, as it were, double rays, made up of two double ſets of points, which expanding themſelves, as they draw towards the rim, at about the midway, are ſurrounded with annulets, each of which includes two points, and are for that reaſon all of an oval form. The inward ſubſtance is black flint, though without it is of an aſh-colour.

There is another ſort of ſtone, which in ſome places is called a Thunder-bolt. Thoſe of this

kind

kind reſemble the heads of arrows, and are called by naturaliſts Belemnites, from the Greek word Belemnon, which ſignifies a dart. There are ſeveral ſorts of theſe in this county, but all agree in having a ſmall ſtreaked texture, formed of a ſort of threads proceeding from the center of the ſtone to the outermoſt ſurface. Likewiſe when they are burned or rubbed one againſt another, or ſcraped with a knife, they yield a ſmell like raſped horn. The largeſt of theſe are about four inches long, and about an inch and a quarter in diameter. One of theſe was found in the quarries of the pariſh of Heddington, and was hollowed at top to the depth of an inch. It was of an aſh-colour inclining to yellow, and if rubbed hard, would draw ſtraws like amber. Some are of a bluiſh colour, and are found at Great Rollwright, in a bluiſh clay, about the length of a man's finger.

There is another ſort of the Belemnites found in great plenty, in the gravel pits of the ſuburbs of Oxford; but very few of them are hollow at the top like the former, though they are radiated like a ſtar, from a cloſer center, and are always of an amber colour. This ſtone is ſomewhat tranſparent, but it will not draw ſtraws. When burnt or rubbed hard, it ſmells like the urine of cats, it is made tapering to a point like the former, though ſome end more bluntly, and have a chink on both ſides.

There are other ſtones that reſemble ſhell-fiſh, ſome of which lie in a maſs of ſtone together, and others are found in fields or quarries a-part. In the confines of Whichwood foreſt, there is a quarry of very hard ſtone, compoſed of a cloſe union of cockles, ſcarce any of them exceeding a pea in bigneſs, but are ſtreaked circularly to the hinges of the valves. They are none of them hollow, but are firmer within than the bed of ſtone

ſtone in which they lie, and are ſo cloſely connected with it, that the maſs will take a very good poliſh. There is another ſort upon the edge of Otmoor near Charleton, which differs from the former in having the cockles larger, and not ſo thick ſet. This, as well as the other, is a kind of marble, ſo curiouſly ſpotted, and ſet with rings, that it is very beautiful. It is uſed for tables, and for grinding colours upon. There is another ſort in the quarries near Adderbury, in their full proportions, ſome of which are wonderfully cryſtalline and beautiful, but are ſo looſe, that a knock will make them leap from their beds. Many of them are hollow, or filled with a brittle ſpar, whence the ſtone is of no other uſe than to mend the highways, or for burning into lime.

Among the ſtones reſembling ſhells that are found ſeparate, are the ſtrombites, which reſemble a ſcrew, and have been found about five inches long. There is alſo a leſſer ſort not above half an inch in length, but curiouſly ſtreaked; both have been found in the quarries in the pariſh of Heddington. They are of an aſh-colour, ſomewhat inclining to yellow, and are of a harder conſiſtence than the ſtone in which they lie.

Stones repreſenting cockles, ſcallops, oyſters, and the like, are very common in this county. Of theſe the conchites, or cockle-ſtones, may be divided into the greater and leſs; the greater have large ſtreaks and furrows, deſcending, as it were, from a center at the top, and expanding themſelves to the rim, having alſo ſix or ſeven tranſverſe lines bent circularly to the hinge. Theſe ſtones are on the outſide of a dark aſh-colour, but within are a black flint. They are found in the Chiltern, about Henley-upon-Thames. Others have the ſtreaks much broader than the former, and deſcend in undulated lines.

One

One of theſe was found at Great Rollwright, in a bluiſh clay. Another ſort is met with in Heddington quarries, where the ſtreaks are not drawn from the hinge to the rim, but tranſverſely and circularly, from one ſide of the ſtone to the other, the leſſer circles being placed next to the joint, and the greater next to the rim of the ſtone. This ſeems to reſemble the wrinkled cockle of Rondeletius, with valves ſwelling very high. It is of an aſh-colour inclining to yellow, and is a ſolid ſtone, much like rubble. There are ſeveral ſorts of the ſmaller conchites, differing in colour, lines and valves. Theſe are found at Teynton, and in the fields about Burford; moſt of them are yellow, with their valves riſing high, and approaching to a round.

With reſpect to the ſtones reſembling a ſcallop-ſhell, one was found in Heddington quarries, of a yellowiſh colour, eared on both ſides, with the ſtreaks proceeding from the joint of the ſtone, between which the lines were very prominent. It had alſo tranſverſe lines, but they did not paſs through the deep furrows; but in another ſcallop found in the ſame place, the tranſverſe lines ran through the others, but were exceeding ſmall. This was of a light reddiſh colour, and eared on both ſides.

There are alſo in this county ſtones of a very odd figure, called Muſcle-ſtones, which do not exactly reſemble any ſhell-fiſh yet known, though they are more like muſcles than any thing elſe. They are not hollow, but conſiſt within of a yellowiſh ſtony earth, and without, of a white ſhining covering, with oblong lines anſwering the figure of the ſtone. There is another ſort remarkably ſmall, found in Heddington quarries.

With reſpect to ſtones repreſenting ſhell-fiſh of the ſofter cruſtaceous kind, one of theſe was found

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in the Chiltern country, in ſubſtance and hardneſs much like a pebble, of a yellowiſh colour, and was divided at firſt by five pretty ſtrait lines, embelliſhed on each ſide with double ſets of points, aſcending from a protuberant center, in the baſis of the ſtone, to another of the like form on the top, but foliated round in the manner of a roſe. It was ſubdivided by five other indented lines, terminated before they reached the center; by which means the ſpaces between theſe lines were all pentagons. This Dr. Plot calls the porcupine ſtone without prickles, but Aldrovandus, the ſea-urchin, deprived of its prickly coat.

Another ſtone reſembling the ſea-urchin of Imperatus, was found in the ſame place without prickles. It differs from the former in colour and ſubſtance, for it is a hard, black flint within, covered over with whitiſh glittering plates, ſet edgeways to the ball of the flint, out of which uniform eminences and depreſſures, with waved and depreſſed lines, are all framed. There is another echnites, or ſea-urchin, reſembling the inner-ſhell of the egg-urchin, ſo called from a ſort of ſtellated eggs, contained in this kind of urchin. The outer coat of the real urchin is full of ſharp prickles; upon which account, it is ſometimes called a ſea-cheſnut, a ſea-hedge-hog, and a ſea-thiſtle; but when it is dead, the outer coat falls off, and then the inner ſhell is diſcovered, curiouſly wrought. Of this inner ſhell, the ſtone we are ſpeaking of is a perfect repreſentation, and is covered with ſo many compartments and eminences regularly diſpoſed, that the moſt ingenious embroiderers would find it hard to imitate it. This ſtone was found in the pariſh of Teynton, where was found another of the ſame ſort, but no bigger than a rouncival pea, and yet as finely embroidered as the former.

In

In this county there are alſo Ammon's-horns, which are ſuppoſed to be the petrefied ſhell of the Nautilus. Of theſe there are many of different ſizes, ſhapes and colours, all ſo curled up within themſelves, that the place of the head is always in the circumference, and the tail in the center of the ſtone. Theſe have been frequently found in digging cellars and foundations in the city of Oxford. Some are ſmall, with protuberant parts ſwelling to a round; and others are broader and more depreſſed; but the lineations of both are waved and extended from the center, to a ſingle edged ridge on the back of the ſtone. In another ſort, the ſtreaks are larger, and not ſo thick or waved, and are terminated at great protuberances on each ſide of the ſtone. Between theſe on its back, are other ſtreaks or lines, and the whole body of the ſtone is divided into ſutures, ſomewhat reſembling the leaves of an oak. The two latter of theſe are perforated at the center, and they are all three adorned with a ſhining braſs-colour, in luſtre equalling the metal itſelf. In the pariſh of Cleydon are found a ſpecies of theſe beautiful ſtones, that have more turns than thoſe at Oxford, tho' they are not much bigger. They are of a yellowiſh colour, and differently ſtreaked; in ſome the ſtreaks that run from the innermoſt part of the ſtone are all ſingle, but many of them are divided before they reach the rim, where they are terminated with a back much more protuberant than the reſt of the ſtone, but it is ſtreaked like the reſt of the body.

Serpent ſtones are found in a bluiſh clay in the pariſh of Great Rollwright, to the eaſtward of the church. Some of theſe are ſoft, and others a hard bluiſh ſtone. They are coiled round like the former, but differ from them in the ſtreaks, which meet at the rim, where they are united in pretty large

large protuberant knobs on each ſide the back of the ſtone. Between theſe two ridges there riſes a third that is more prominent, juſt in the place, as it were of the dorſal ſpine. One of theſe was four inches over, and made up of as many turns. There was one found at Sandford near Oxford, about eleven inches over, and had ſingle ribs only, without knobs and ridges on the back.

There are other ſtones in this county that repreſent entire plants, and others are like the fruits of trees, as thoſe reſembling pears, particularly a warden pear, found in the pariſh of Warterſtock, which was whitiſh without, and yellow within. In the pariſh of Whitchurch was found a hard ſtone like an apricot.

There are alſo ſtones that reſemble animals, either in the whole or in part; among which are ſome that ſeem to be petrified reptiles. In the rubble quarries, near Shotover-hill, there are two ſorts of worm-ſtones, one of which is of a whitiſh yellow colour, and ſeems of the ſame texture as the rubble-ſtone itſelf. Some of them are of the ſize of a gooſe quill, and lie in the rock in mezzo relievo. Another ſort lies in the very body of the ſtone, of a white colour, and regularly curled up like the ſpring of a watch.

We ſhall now take notice of the different kinds of ſoil, and the manner of cultivation practiſed in this county. With reſpect to the nature of the ſoil, it differs greatly; for in ſome places it is a black or reddiſh earth, in others clay, and in others chalk. Here are alſo three kinds of marle, one of which is of a whitiſh colour, inclining to yellow, but not very fat, and diſſolves ſo eaſily, that it may be laid on the ground at any time of the year. In the pariſh of Cornwell, is another of a blue colour, that will readily take ſpots out of clothes, and is extremely proper to be laid on

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the neighbouring barren hills, about the beginning of winter. There is a light, hollow kind of marle, which diſſolves in water almoſt as readily as fuller's earth, and is naturally ſo ſpongy, that it is fit for uſe at any time of the year. It is of a whitiſh grey when dry, intermixed with ſand, and is very brittle. Beſides theſe marles, there is a ſort of greeniſh earth, of a fat, cloſe texture, ſo well impregnated with ſalt, that it crackles when put into the fire, as much as ſalt itſelf. It diſſolves immediately in water, on which it beſtows a brackiſh taſte.

Neither the roads, nor the huſbandry, are in ſuch perfection as might be expected in this county. The country from Thetford to Oxford is diſagreeable wild and barren. The road, though it is called a turnpike, is covered with looſe chalk ſtones, which rowl about as if intended to lame the horſes, and is not only narrow, but full of holes and deep ruts; yet the tolls are very dear, and conſidering the badneſs in which the roads are kept, extremely unreaſonable.

Their courſe of huſbandry is different from that of moſt counties. In the neighbourhood of Whitney, they ſow one year wheat, the ſecond beans, the third barley, the fourth keep it fallow, the fifth ſow barley, and the ſixth clover, with variations. They ſet their beans with a dibble, and keep them clean by hocing. About Hanborough, when beans are not ſown, then clover is ſown among the wheat in ſpring. They plant all their beans, and generally hoe them twice. They uſe both foot and wheel ploughs, all with four horſes. A remarkable manner of eſtimating crops here is by the return, in proportion to the ſeed; wheat they reckon five or ſix buſhels for one; and as they ſow three buſhels on an acre, it amounts of courſe to about two quarters, or

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two and a half. An acre of barley produces three quarters, and one of beans three and a half. They have, in this part of the county no dairies, and they even feed their hogs in ſummer with beans. There are ſaid to be no leſs than five ſorts of wheat ſown in this county, all adapted to as many kinds of ſoil. Oxfordſhire abounds with meadows, which are not ſurpaſſed by any paſtures in England. The hills of Oxfordſhire, before the civil wars, were pretty well furniſhed with trees, but wood is now ſo ſcarce, that it is frequently ſold by weight, not only at Oxford, but in the northern parts of the county. That part called Chiltern is ſtill a woody tract, and is remarkable for great plenty of beach; but there are not many trees of other kinds. Beſides the Chiltern lies ſo far from Oxford, and ſo near the river Thames, that the wood is readily conveyed to London, and is conſequently of little benefit to the reſt of the county, which producing no coals, fuel is very ſcarce.

The uncommon plants growing in this county are:

Female or blue-flowered pimpernel, *Anagallis foemina flore coeruleo*, Park. At Battle near Oxford.

Painted or gilded reed, *Arundo vallatoria foliis ex luteo variegatis*. In the river Thames not far from Oxford.

The greateſt doves-foot, cranes-bill with diſſected leaves, *Geranium columbinum maximum foliis diſſectis*, Dr. Plot. hiſt. nat. Oxon. In hedges about Marſton, and on that of Botley-cauſey next Oxford, in great plenty.

Dogs-graſs with awns, *Gramen caninum ariſtatum, radice non repente ſylvaticum*. Found plentifully in Stoken-church woods.

Wild

Wild rye-graſs of the woods, *Gramen ſecalinum majus ſylvaticum*, Gr. *Secalinum majus*, Park. In Stoken church-woods.

Cyperus-graſs with a round crow-foot-head, *Gramen cyperoides minimum, ranunculi capitulo rotundo.* Frequently found on the bogs on the weſt ſide of Oxford.

White-flowered baſtard-hellebore, *Helleborine flore albo vel damaſonium montanum latifolium*, C. B. In the woods near Stoken-church, not far from the way leading from Oxford to London.

Birds-neſt, ſmelling like primroſe roots, *Orobanche verbaſculi odore*, Dr. Plot. At the bottoms of trees in the woods near Stoken-church.

Annual pearl-wort, *Saxifraga Anglica annua alſines folio*, Dr. Plot. In the walks of Baliol-college gardens, and on the fallow fields about Heddington and Cowley, plentifully; and in many other places.

Baſe hore-hound, *Stachys fuchſii*, J. B. Ger. *Major Germanica*, C. B. Park. Nigh Whitney-park, plentifully.

Red lime, *Tilia foliis molliter hirſutis, viminibus rubris, fructu tetragono.* It is found in Stoken-church woods.

Creeping tormentil with deeply indented leaves, *Tormentilla reptans alata, foliis profundiùs ſerratis.* In the borders of the corn-fields between Hockley and Shotover-woods, and elſewhere.

Violet with throatworth-leaves, *Viola martia hirſuta major inodora*, Dr. Plot. *Trachellii folio*, D. Merret. In Magdalen-college-cops, Shotover-hills, Stow-wood, and many other places, plentifully.

Round leaved marſh violet, *Viola paluſtris rotundifolia*, Dr. Plot. In the bogs about Stow-wood, and on the banks of the Cherwell, between Oxford and Water-Eyton, but ſparingly.

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The greater periwinkle, *Clematis daphnoides major*, C. B. *Daphnoid. latifolia ſeu vinca pervinca major*, Park. In the highways between Wolverton and Yarnton, and in ſeveral of the hedges in that neighbourhood.

White berried elder, *Sambucus fructu albo*, Ger Park. In the hedges near Watlington.

We now come to the diviſions of the county, and here it is proper to obſerve, that the moſt ſouthern part is diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Chiltern country, from its bordering on the Chiltern-hills, which extend from Buckinghamſhire into this part of Oxfordſhire.

This county is divided into fourteen hundreds: it lies in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of York, and contains two hundred and eighty pariſhes, one city, and twelve market towns; namely, the city of Oxford, Bampton, Burford, Banbury, Biceſter, Deddington, Chipping-Norton, Iſlep, Thame, Henley upon Thames, Woodſtock, Whitney, and Watlington; and ſends nine members to parliament, viz. two knights of the ſhire for the county, two citizens for Oxford, two repreſentatives for that univerſity, two burgeſſes for the borough of Woodſtock, and one for Banbury.

We ſhall enter this county by the road which leads from Reading to Oxford, where the firſt village we meet is CAVERSHAM, which is ſeated on the borders of Berkſhire, and in the moſt ſouthern part of Oxfordſhire, little more than a mile to the north of Reading. This village is only remarkable for having had a ſmall priory, which was a cell to the monaſtery at Nottely in Buckinghamſhire.

From Caverſham a road extends about ſix miles north by eaſt to HENLEY UPON THAMES, which

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is thus called from its ſituation upon that river, to diſtinguiſh it from ſeveral other towns in England of the name of Henley. It is ſituated thirty-ſix miles north-weſt of London, and twenty ſouth-caſt of Oxford, on the London road to that city, and on the edge of the county. It is a town of great antiquity, anciently called Hanneburg, and is at preſent a large town, governed by a warden, burgeſſes, and other officers. The houſes are generally well built, and here are two free-ſchools; one a grammar-ſchool, founded and endowed by king James the Firſt, and the other called the Blue-coat ſchool, founded by the lady Elizabeth Periam, for teaching and clothing ſeveral poor children, and putting them out apprentices. Here is alſo an alms-houſe, founded by Dr. Longland, biſhop of Lincoln, and a wooden bridge over the Thames that leads into Buckinghamſhire. The principal part of the inhabitants are meal-men, malſters, and barge-men, who enrich themſelves by ſending corn, malt, and wood to London. It has a market on Thurſdays, which is ſo conſiderable, that three hundred cart loads of malt and corn are ſometimes ſold in it on one market-day; and it has four fairs, held on the 7th of March, chiefly for horſes; on Holy-Thurſday for ſheep only; on Thurſday after Trinity-Sunday, for horſes and ſheep; and on Thurſday ſe'nnight before October 10, for cheeſe and horſes.

Near Henley upon Thames is the village of BOWNEY, where was dug up, in the year 1751, the lid of a ſtone coffin, round which was an inſcription that was plain and legible; except in a few places, which were defaced by the workman's pick-axe. The coffin was alſo adorned with carved work, executed in a rude manner, but it does not appear that the inſcription was then underſtood, or has been ſince explained, though ſeveral exact draw-

ings have been taken, both of that and this lid. Within the coffin was a ſkeleton of a ſmall ſize, almoſt entire; but upon lightly touching any part, it inſtantly crumbled into duſt.

About ten miles to the north by weſt of Henley is WATLINGTON, which is thought by ſome to owe its name to the manner of the ancient Britons building their houſes with wattles, or wicker-work. There was formerly a caſtle here, of which there are no traces, except an eminence and a moat, now coverted into a fiſh-pond, near the eaſt end of the church. Thomas Thorner, Eſq; about the year 1666, built here a pretty market-houſe, and founded a free grammar-ſchool. The town has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on Lady-day, chiefly for pleaſure, and on October 10, for hogs and cattle.

A little to the north of this town is SHERBORN, where the earl of Macclesfield has a caſtle, which is his family ſeat; and in this ſtructure is an obſervatory for making aſtronomical obſervations.

About three miles north of Sherborn is ADWELL, a village, where was anciently a fortification that had intrenchments about it, which Dr. Plot ſuppoſes, were made about the year 1010, when the Danes landed in January, and paſſing through Chiltern-woods, went to Oxford, and having burnt that city, erected this fortification. Some others are, however, of opinion, that what that gentleman ſuppoſes to be a fortification, was a barrow.

Two miles ſouth-weſt of Watlington is EWELME, a village, in which was the ſeat of William de la Pole, who built here a neat church, and with Alice his wife, founded a houſe of alms, called God's houſe, for two prieſts, and thirteen poor men, in the reign of king Henry the Sixth.

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The firſt prieſt to be maſter of the houſe, to preach and ſay maſs, and the ſecond to teach grammar to all the children of the lordſhip of Ewelme. For the ſupport of this hoſpital or alms-houſe, they gave three manors, with all their appurtenances, out of which the two prieſts were to receive 10 l. a year each, the chief of the poor men, who was called the maſter, and whoſe duty was to complain of the reſt when they behaved amiſs, and to ring the bell for the common ſervice, was to have 3 l. 9 s. 4 d. a year, and the reſt of the poor men were to receive weekly 14d. Theſe ſalaries, trifling as they appear, were then very conſiderable; the lord chancellor and lord treaſurer of England for the time being were appointed protectors. This foundation is ſtill in being as an alms-houſe and free-ſchool; but notwithſtanding the three manors are ſaid to produce 3000 l. per annum, the ſchool is ſaid to have been lately ſhut up, and no boys taught, though in the late teacher's time many gentlemen of the country were educated there.

Some time ago a waggon paſſing over Ewelme common happened to break up the ground near the ancient Roman highway, called Ikening-ſtreet, by which means was diſcovered a large Roman urn containing a number of copper coins, ſome of which were as old as the arrival of the Romans in the time of Julius Caeſar.

BENSINGTON, or BENSON, a village ſeated on the river Thames, three miles ſouth-weſt of Watlington, is extremely ancient, and is called a royal vill by an old author, who relates, that it was taken from the Britons by Ceaulin, in the year 572, and was poſſeſſed by the Weſt-Saxons for two hundred years after. But this may be doubted; for, as it lay on the frontiers of the Weſt-Saxon and Mercian kingdoms, it is probable that it frequently changed its maſters. At

preſent it is a ſmall village, and at a little diſtance from it are the remains of a royal palace, which was formerly a beautiful ſtructure, but it is fallen to decay on account of its unhealthy ſituation. The Roman road paſſes the river at this place, running toward Sylcheſter, and may be ſeen weſt of the church.

Five miles north-weſt of Watlington is STOKEN-CHURCH, a village on the road from London to Oxford, which has two fairs, held on the 10th of July, for horſes, and on the 29th of September, for hiring ſervants.

Six miles north of Sherborn is TAME, or THAME, which is ſituated on the eaſt ſide of the county, twelve miles eaſt of Oxford, and takes its name from the river Tame, which riſing in Buckinghamſhire, paſſes by this town, which is pleaſantly ſeated, the Tame waſhing the north part of the town, and two ſmall brooks the eaſt and weſt. It ſeems to have been of ſome note in the time of the Saxons, for in the reign of Edward the Elder, in the year 921, the Danes coming hither erected a fortification, and king Edward marching againſt it the ſame year, is ſaid to have beſieged the borough of Tame, and to have taken it with the ſlaughter of the Daniſh king, and all that oppoſed him in the town. Afterwards, in the year 1010, when the Danes over-run almoſt all parts of England, Tame ſuffered greatly. In the year 1137, Alexander, biſhop of Lincoln, gave his park near this town to the Ciſtercian monks, belonging to the abbey of Ottely, who built a monaſtery in it, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed, at the diſſolution of religious houſes, with a yearly revenue of 256l. 13s. 7d. About the end of the reign of king Henry the Sixth, or king Edward the Fourth, Richard Quartermain founded and endowed an

hoſpital

hoſpital in this town, near the church. Henry Lexington, biſhop of Lincoln, in the reign of Henry the Third, bringing the great road, which before lay at ſome diſtance, through the middle of the town, it continued in a flouriſhing condition, but is now only an indifferent place, chiefly conſiſting of one great ſtreet, in the midſt of which is a ſpacious market-place. Here is a fine church, and a free-ſchool, the maſter of which is nominated by the warden and ſcholars of New-college, Oxford, and it has an alms-houſe for five poor men, and a woman. It has a market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, held on Eaſter-Tueſday, for all ſorts of cattle; and on October 10, for horſes, fat hogs, and for hiring ſervants.

Sir John Holt, an eminent lawyer, and lord-chief-juſtice of the King's-Bench, was the eldeſt ſon of Sir Thomas Holt, ſerjeant at law; and was born December the 30th, 1642, at Thame. He received his education at Abingdon-ſchool, and at Oriel-college, Oxford, whence he removed to Gray's-Inn, London; and applying himſelf there to the ſtudy of the law, he became, in the ſpace of a few years, a moſt diſtinguiſhed barriſter. In 1685 he was made recorder of London; but from this place, which he held by patent from the crown, he was the next year diſmiſſed by king James the Second. Being choſen a member of the convention-parliament in 1688, he acted as one of the managers for the Commons, at the conferences with the Lords, concerning the abdication of the king, and the vacancy of the throne. His behaviour, no doubt, on this occaſion, contributed conſiderably towards his advancement; for, in 1689, he was appointed lord-chief-juſtice of the court of King's-Bench; and this important office he diſcharged, for the ſpace of twenty-one years, with equal honour to himſelf, and ad-

vantage to the public. Zealous, as he was, in the cauſe of liberty, and poſſeſſed, at the ſame time, of the moſt undaunted courage, he was not afraid of incurring the indignation of the two houſes of parliament; by aſſerting the freedom of the ſubject, and depriving them, as far as his deciſions could do it, of the dangerous power of arbitrary impriſonment. In 1708 he publiſhed The Reports of the lord-chief-juſtice Keyling, with ſome notes of his own. He died on the 5th of March, 1709, and was interred in the church of Redgrave in Suffolk.

About five miles to the weſt of Watlington is the village of DORCHESTER, which was called by the ancient Britons Caer-Dauri, or Caer-Doren, from the word Dower, which, in the Britiſh language, ſignifies water. This place is thought by ſome to have been a Roman ſtation, many of their coins and medals having been frequently found in the village and its neighbourhood. To the ſouth-weſtward of the town are two banks, with a trench between them, called Dyke-hills, which Dr. Plot ſuppoſes to have been a fortification. Upon the converſion of the Saxons to the Chriſtian faith, Kenegils, king of the Weſt-Saxons, gave Dorcheſter to St. Birine, the apoſtle of theſe parts, for the place of his reſidence; and about the year 635, St. Birine built a church here, and made this the ſeat of his biſhopric, which then comprized the two large kingdoms of the Weſt-Saxons and Mercians. It continued a biſhop's ſee for above four hundred years, till biſhop Romigius tranſlated the epiſcopal ſeat to the city of Lincoln, in the reign of William the Conqueror, about the year 1086. After this removal the town began to decay, inſomuch, that as William of Malmeſbury tells us, it became a ſmall and unfrequented place, tho' it was

remarkable

remarkable for the ſtatelineſs of its churches. However, here was an abbey of Black canons built by Alexander, biſhop of Lincoln, about the year 1140, dedicated to St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Birine, which at the diſſolution was valued at 219l. 12s. per annum. In later times the road thro' this town from London to Oxford, being turned another way, alſo contributed to render the town neglected, but now paſſengers begin to travel that way again. A little below, to the ſouth of the town, the river Tame falls into the Thames, or, as it is called at Oxford, the Iſis; from which union many have ſuppoſed the name of Thames is derived. Dorcheſter has no market, and only one fair, which is held on Eaſter-Tueſday, for pleaſure.

Two miles ſouth-weſt of Dorcheſter is GORING, a village which had a ſmall priory of Auguſtine nuns, in the time of king Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but who was its founder is uncertain. It was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 60l. 6s. 5d. a year.

From Dorcheſter a road extends ten miles north-weſt to the city of OXFORD, which is ſituated ſixty-eight miles north by eaſt of Briſtol, eighty weſt-ſouth-weſt of Cambridge, eighty-one north by weſt of Chicheſter, fifty ſouth of Coventry, fifty-ſeven north-eaſt of Saliſbury, and fifty-five weſt-north-weſt of London. There have been great diſputes concerning its antiquity. The fabulous hiſtory of Oxford placing its origin a thouſand years before the time of our Saviour, and aſcribing its foundation to Memprick, king of the Britons, from whom it is ſaid to have been called Caer-Memprick, or the city of Memprick, a name ſaid to have been afterwards changed to Caer-Boſſa, the city of Boſſa, and again to Rhid-Ychen, a name of the ſame meaning with Oxen-ford, the

Saxon appellation, from which its preſent name is ſuppoſed to be derived. This city is alſo ſaid to have been called at different times Belloſitum and Beaumont, in alluſion to the beauty of its ſituation: we are alſo told, that it being deſtroyed by the Saxons in their firſt attempt upon this country, Vortigern, the Britiſh king, reſtored it to its former grandeur, whence it was called Caer-Vortigern.

It however appears to have been a place of no great conſideration, till king Alfred refounded an univerſity here in the year 886. That wiſe prince is generally conſidered as the founder of the univerſity, though he was only the reſtorer of learning at this place. At his acceſſion all kinds of literature had ſuffered ſo much by the wars with which England had been laid waſte, that very few could read Engliſh, and ſcarce a ſingle prieſt in the kingdom underſtood Latin. To remove this inconvenience, he ordered pope Gregory the Firſt's paſtoral, containing the duty of paſtors, to be tranſlated into Engliſh, and having ſent a copy of it to every biſhop in his dominions, aſſembled ſeveral men of literature, among whom were Grymbald, and John the monk, who were diſtinguiſhed for their piety and learning, whom he ſettled at Oxford in the year 886. That city having been before a ſeminary of learning, Grymbald, and the learned men who accompanied him hither, were oppoſed by the old ſcholars, on their preſcribing new ſtatutes, inſtitutes and inſtitutions to the ſtudents, who upon this pleaded that letters had long flouriſhed there, and that there being then but few ſtudents, was owing to their having been expelled in great numbers, by the tyranny of pagans and infidels. They likewiſe maintained that they were ready to prove, by the teſtimony of their annals, that good rules and orders had long

long ſubſiſted for the government of the place: rules preſcribed by Gildas, Melkin, Nennius Kentigern, and other perſons of great learning and piety, who had proſecuted their ſtudies at that ſeat of learning, and formed and improved the conſtitution of its univerſity.

During Grymbald's ſtay at Oxford, he and St. Neot were regents and readers of divinity; Aſſer, a monk of extraordinary parts and knowledge, taught grammar and rhetoric. John, a monk and collegue of Grymbald, taught geometry and aſtronomy; and John, a monk of St. David's, logic, muſic and arithmetic. The above animoſities had ſubſiſted during three years, when they were carried on with ſuch violence, that upon Grymbald's complaint to the king, he came in perſon to Oxford, where he was at great pains in hearing both parties, and endeavouring to accommodate their differences: at length, having exhorted them to live in friendſhip, he left them, in hopes that they would comply; but the ſtudents continuing their oppoſition, Grymbald retired to the monaſtery at Winchester, which had been lately founded by Alfred.

That excellent prince is ſaid to have built three halls, all ſubject to one head, called by the names of Great Univerſity-hall, Little Univerſity-hall, and Leſs Univerſity-hall, in which he placed twenty-ſix ſtudents in divinity, to whom he gave annual ſtipends. Others are, however, of opinion, that Alfred founded only one hall under a three-fold diſtinction, from the ſciences taught in it. Such is, however, the foundation of what is now called Univerſity-college, which is allowed to be the moſt ancient in Oxford. Yet ſome have maintained that this college had ſcholars long before the reign of king Alfred, and that St. John de Beverley, who died in the year 721, received

his education there, and they ſuppoſe that Alfred only built the houſe, to which he gave the name of Great Univerſity-hall, and provided the ſtudents with exhibitions.

In the reign of king Ethelred, the city, together with this college, were ſacked and burnt by the Danes, in the year 1002, and they were ſcarcely rebuilt when king Harold, in 1036, being highly incenſed againſt this place, for the murder of ſome of his friends in a tumult, baniſhed the ſcholars; but by an edict of Edward the Confeſſor, the ſcholars were reſtored to their ancient habitations and penſions.

William the Conqueror, being deſirous of aboliſhing the Engliſh tongue, and unwilling to have the doctrines of the church any longer preached in it, was warmly oppoſed by the clergy and ſcholars; on which he ſtopped the ſtipends granted them by king Alfred, and reduced them to live on charitable contributions. The inhabitants then joining in a rebellion, William beſieged the city, took it, and gave it up to be plundered, in revenge for ſome affront one of the inhabitants offered him from the walls. That prince is alſo ſuppoſed to have ſurrounded the city with new walls, of which the North-gate, and ſome ſcattered fragments are ſtill remaining.

In the reign of king John, the magiſtrates of Oxford, having, without trial, hanged up three prieſts or ſcholars belonging to the Univerſity, for a murder, of which they were ſuppoſed to be innocent, the ſtudents retired from Oxford to Reading, Saliſbury, Maidſtone, Cambridge, and other places; by which means the town became ſo impoveriſhed, that it ſent deputies to the pope's legate at Weſtminſter, who begged pardon upon their knees, and ſubmitted to do public penance;

nance; upon which the ſcholars, after four or five years abſence, returned.

At what time Oxford was firſt dignified with the title of an Univerſity, is uncertain; but in the year 1256, in an addreſs from the univerſity to the king, it is expreſsly called an Univerſity, and the ſecond ſchool of the church, after the univerſity of Paris: and before this time, the popes in their decretals, allowed the title of an Univerſity to none but thoſe of Paris, Oxford, Bononia, and Salamanca.

About the year 1318, we find the Hebrew tongue began to be ſtudied in this univerſity, where it was taught by a Jewiſh convert, towards whoſe ſalary every clerk in Oxford contributed one penny out of every mark of his eccleſiaſtical revenue.

This may be ſufficient for the hiſtory of Oxford in general; but as the more particular hiſtory of this city conſiſts in that of its ſeveral colleges, we ſhall give it when we come to treat of them, and to prevent a repetition, ſhall add the preſent ſituation of each.

Oxford is ſituated on the bank of the Thames, or, as it is here called, the Iſis, near its confluence with ſeveral rivers, in a beautiful plain and ſweet air. The proſpect of the city from Shotover-hill is very agreeable. It is one of the largeſt cities in England, including the buildings of the univerſity, which compoſe above two-thirds of it. The private buildings are, in general, neat, and the public ones magnificent; the ſtreets are ſpacious, clean, and regular. The cathedral belonging to Chriſt-Church-college, will be taken notice of in deſcribing the colleges of the univerſity; and beſides this there are fourteen pariſh churches, ſome of which are noble ſtructures. Theſe are, St. Mary's, All Saints, St. Martin's, or Carfax, St.

Aldate's, or St. Tole's, St. Ebb's, St. Peter's in the Bailey, St. Michael's, St. Mary Magdalen's, St. Peter's in the Eaſt, St. Giles's, Holiwell's, St. Thomas's, St. Clement's, and St. John's.

Only four of theſe churches are worthy of obſervation, which are St. Mary's, All Saints, St. Peter's in the Eaſt, and St. John's. St. Mary's church, in which the univerſity hear divine ſervice performed on Sundays and holidays, has a noble and beautiful tower, a hundred and eighty feet high, richly adorned with Gothic workmanſhip, and contains ſix remarkably large bells, by which notice is given to the univerſity for ſcholaſtic exerciſes, convocations, and congregations. The church conſiſts of three iſles, with a ſpacious choir: the pulpit is placed in the center of the middle-iſle: at the weſt end of it ſtands the vice-chancellor's throne, and beneath it are the thrones of the two proctors: there are ſeats which deſcend on each ſide, appointed for the doctors and heads of houſes; and beneath theſe are ſeats for the young nobility. The area of the church conſiſts of benches for the maſters of arts, and on the weſt end, with a return to the north and ſouth, are galleries for the under graduates and batchelors of arts.

All Saint's church is an elegant modern ſtructure, much in the ſtyle of ſeveral of the new churches in London. It is ſeventy-two feet long, forty-two broad, and fifty high. It has a beautiful ſteeple in the modern taſte, is ornamented both within and without with Corinthian pilaſters, and finiſhed with an attic ſtory and baluſtrade.

The church of St Peter in the Eaſt was built between eight and nine hundred years ago, by St. Grymbald, and is ſaid to be the firſt church built with ſtone in this part of England. It was formerly

merly the univerſity church, and is a curious piece of antiquity.

St. John's church is alſo the chapel of Merton college, and will be taken notice of in deſcribing the buildings of that college.

Here is a town-hall, where the aſſizes for the county, and the city and county ſeſſions are held. This is a neat ſtructure, lately erected at the expence of Thomas Rowney, Eſq; The city has alſo five or ſix charity-ſchools, in which above three hundred children are taught and cloathed; one for forty boys was founded by the univerſity, and another for thirty boys and girls founded by the city. Here is a ſtone bridge over the Charwell, which conſiſts of twenty arches, and is ſix hundred feet long, and there are two ſtone bridges over the Thames, which is navigable by barges to the city, the chief trade of which conſiſts in ſending malt in barges to London.

The city is governed by a mayor, a high ſteward and recorder, four aldermen, eight aſſiſtants, two bailiffs, a town clerk, two chamberlains, all who have ſerved the office of bailiff and chamberlain, and twenty-four common council-men. The mayor for the time being officiates at the coronation of our kings in the buttery, and has a large gilt bowl and cover for his fee. The magiſtracy of the city is ſubject to the chancellor and vice-chancellor of the univerſity, in all affairs of moment, even in thoſe relating to the city; and every year the vice-chancellor adminiſters an oath to the magiſtrates and ſheriffs, that they will maintain the privileges of the univerſity: beſides, on the 10th of February, the mayor and ſixty-two of the chief citizens, in a ſolemn manner, pay each one penny at St. Mary's church, in lieu of a great fine laid upon the city, in the reign of king

king Edward the Third, when ſixty-two of the ſtudents were murdered by the citizens.

This city had a caſtle, which appears by its ruins to have been of great ſtrength and extent, and of theſe we have given an engraved view. A part of the building now ſtanding is uſed for the county jail. This ſtructure was founded by Robert D'Oily, who came over with William the Conqueror. Within the caſtle was a collegiate church for ſecular canons, founded and endowed in 1074, by Robert D'Oily and Roger Iveri; but this church with all its revenues, was, in 1149, annexed to a houſe of regular canons at Oſeney near this city, and the buildings were afterwards occupied by ſtudents. An ancient manuſcript alſo mentions a monaſtery here dedicated to St. Aldatus before the year 1122. The preſent chapel was raiſed by contributions for the uſe of the priſoners. In the caſtle-yard are ſome remains of the ancient town-hall, where, in the year 1577, the Black aſſizes were held, when the lieutenant of the county, two knights, eighty eſquires and juſtices of the peace, beſides almoſt all the gentlemen of the grand jury, died ſoon after, which was occaſioned by an infection brought into the court by the priſoners. Above a hundred ſcholars, beſides townſmen, were ſeized with ſo ſtrange a diſtemper, that they ran about the ſtreets like mad-men, and beat their governors. This diſorder, however, laſted but one month.

The city of Oxford gives the title of earl to the noble family of Harley. It has a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the 3d of May, the Monday after the firſt of September, and the Thurſday before Michaelmas, for toys and ſmall ware.

The univerſity of Oxford is one of the nobleſt in the world, with reſpect to the opulency of its endow-

The North View of Oxford Caſtle.

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endowments, the magnificence of its buildings, and the convenience of its manſions for ſtudy. It conſiſts of twenty colleges and five halls, and is a corporation governed by a chancellor, a high-ſteward, a vice-chancellor, two proctors, a public orator, a keeper of the archives, a regiſter, three eſquire beadles carrying ſilver maces wrought and gilt, three yeoman beadles, with plain ſilver maces, and a verger with a ſilver rod. The chancellor is uſually one of the nobility, and is the ſupreme governor of the univerſity. He is choſen by the ſtudents in convocation, and continues in his office for life. The high ſteward is nominated by the chancellor, but muſt be approved by the univerſity. His office, which alſo continues for life, is to aſſiſt the chancellor in the government of the univerſity, and to hear and determine capital cauſes, according to the laws of the land, and the privileges of the univerſity. The vice-chancellor, who is always in orders, and the head of ſome college, is likewiſe appointed by the chancellor, and approved by the univerſity. As he is the chancellor's deputy, he governs the univerſity according to its ſtatutes, and chooſes four pro-vice-chancellors out of the heads of colleges, to officiate in his abſence. The two proctors are maſters of arts, choſen annually in turn, out of the ſeveral colleges and halls; and their buſineſs is to keep the peace, to puniſh diſorders, inſpect weights and meaſures, appoint ſcholaſtic exerciſes, and the taking of degrees. The public orator writes letters in the name of the univerſity, and harangues princes and other great perſonages who viſit it. The keeper of the archives has the cuſtody of the charters and records. And the regiſter records all the public tranſactions of the univerſity in convocation.

The

The officers, fellows, and ſcholars, maintained by the revenues of the univerſity, amount to about a thouſand, and the number of ſuch ſcholars as live at their own expence, is uſually about two thouſand, the whole amounting to three thouſand perſons; beſides a great number of inferior officers and ſervants belonging to the ſeveral colleges and halls, which have each their ſtatutes and rules of government, under their reſpective heads, fellows and tutors.

In this univerſity are annually held four terms for public exerciſes, lectures, and diſputations; and ſet days and hours when the profeſſors of every faculty read their lectures; and in ſome of the colleges are public lectures, to which all perſons are admitted.

Each college has its own particular library and chapel, and moſt of them are adorned with cloyſters, quadrangles, piazzas, ſtatues, gardens, and groves. The names of the colleges are, Univerſity college, Baliol college, Merton college, Exeter college, Oriel college, Queen's college, New college, Lincoln college, All-Souls college, Magdalen college, Brazen-noſe college, Corpus Chriſti college, Chriſt-Church college, Trinity college, St. John Baptiſt college, Jeſus college, Wadham college, Pembroke college, Worceſter college, and Hartford college.

I. Univerſity-college already mentioned, is ſeated near the eaſt gate of the city, and is ſo very ancient, that there is no account of its original foundation, or how long it had ſubſiſted before it was refounded by Alfred. The preſent ſtructure, which is ſpacious, ſuperb and uniform, was begun in 1634, at the expence of Charles Greenwood, formerly a fellow here, carried on by Sir Simon Bennet, and completed by Dr. John Radcliff. The magnificent north front of this college

lege is extended two hundred and ſixty feet along the ſouth ſide of High-ſtreet, and has two ſtately portals, with a tower over each; the weſtern portal leads to a handſome Gothic quadrangle a hundred feet ſquare: on the ſouth ſide of the eaſtern quadrangle, are the chapel and hall. There is alſo a third court of three ſides, each of which extends about eighty feet. This college has a maſter, twelve fellows, ſeventeen ſcholars, and about ninety other ſtudents.

II. Baliol-college, the next in antiquity, is of a much more modern date; for though, in the year 1231, the ſtudents of this univerſity appear to have amounted to thirty thouſand Engliſh, Scots, French, and Iriſh, yet there was but one hall or college, till after the year 1260, when the foundation of this college was projected by Sir John Baliol, of Bernard caſtle in Yorkſhire, the father of John Baliol, king of Scotland, who ſettled ſome annual exhibitions on certain poor ſcholars, till he could provide a houſe and other accommodations for them; but he dying in 1269, Devergilla, his widow, in compliance with his deſire, hired of the univerſity a houſe in a ſtreet now called Canditch, in which ſhe placed her exhibitioners, conſiſting of a principal and ſixteen fellows, and preſcribed ſtatutes for their government. Afterwards, in 1284, ſhe purchaſed a ſtructure, called St. Mary's hall, which having rebuilt, ſhe removed the ſociety to it, and gave it the name of Baliol college. This is an old Gothic ſtructure, in which are at preſent maintained a maſter, twelve fellows, and eighteen exhibitioners, the whole number of the ſociety amounting to about ninety. It has one large ancient quadrangle, on the north ſide of which is the chapel and the library, which is furniſhed with a very noble

noble collection of books, Sir Thomas Wendy gave his library to it, which was valued at 1500 l.

III. Merton-college is situated on the south side of the city. Walter de Merton, lord high chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Third, and afterwards bishop of Rochester, founded and endowed a college of twenty poor scholars and two or three chaplains, at Malden in Surry, in the year 1261; but the liberal arts being only taught in the universities, and he not being willing that his students should be ignorant of them, he translated this society to a building erected for them in St. John's street, Oxford, in the year 1267, prescribed a body of statutes for them in 1274, and gave the college the name of Domus Sholarium de Merton. This college at present consists of two square courts, of which the inner one is a neat and uniform building, and has a well furnished library and a fine garden. The chapel of this college, which is also the parish church of St. John, is a magnificent edifice, with a tower, in which are six bells. It is an august, Gothic edifice, and its choir is the longest of any in the university, that of New college excepted. There is something elegant in the painted glass of the east window, which is the work of a modern hand. Near the altar are the monuments of Sir Thomas Bodley and Sir Henry Saville. On the right hand of the chapel door is that of the late warden Dr. Wyntle and his sister, which is prettily executed; and near the north door of the ante-chapel is a bust and inscription to the memory of Anthony Wood. This church was erected in the year 1424. The college maintains a warden, twenty-four fellows, fourteen post-masters, four scholars, two chaplains, and two clerks; the number of members in the whole amount to about one hundred.

IV. Exeter

IV. Exeter-college is ſeated on the north part of the town, on the weſt ſide of the ſchools. In 1314 Walter Stapledon, biſhop of Exeter, bought two buildings, called Hart-hall, and Arthur's-hall, in the city of Oxford, in which he inſtituted a ſociety, conſiſting of a rector, and twelve ſcholars, by the name of the ſociety of Stapledon-hall; but afterwards, not liking the ſituation, he purchaſed a piece of ground in the city, and having erected a new ſtructure, tranſlated the ſociety to it, on which it was at firſt called Stapledon-Inn, but afterwards it obtained the name of Exeter-college, from Edmund Stafford, biſhop of Exeter, who was a benefactor to it. It conſiſts of one large and handſome quadrangle. In the center of the front, which is two hundred and twenty feet in length, is a beautiful gate of ruſtic work, with a handſome tower. This college maintains a rector, twenty-five fellows, a bible-clerk, and two exhibitioners. The ſtudents of every ſort amount to about fifty.

V. Oriel-college, which is ſituated at the ſouth ſide of the town, was at firſt called St. Mary's-college, and King's-college. Several learned antiquaries aſcribe its foundation to king Edward the Second, in 1324; but it appears, that he contributed little more to it than granting a licence to Adam le Brome, his almoner, to build and endow a college here by the name of St. Mary's-hall. To this ſociety king Edward the Third, in the firſt year of his reign, gave a large building in Oxford, called l'Oriel, to which the fellows removed from St. Mary's-hall, and this obtained the name of Oriel-college. It at preſent conſiſts of one uniform quadrangle, in which there is nothing very remarkable. The members belonging to this college are a provoſt, eighteen fellows, and fourteen

fourteen exhibitioners, with about ninety ſtudents.

VI. Queen's-college is ſeated oppoſite to Univerſity-college, on the north ſide of High-ſtreet. In the year 1340 Robert Eglesfield, a batchelor of divinity in this univerſity, at the deſire of queen Philippa, conſort of king Edward the Third, purchaſed ſeveral houſes in the city, which he converted into a collegiate hall, by the name of Queen's college; and having in the ſame year obtained a royal charter of confirmation, he endowed this hall for a provoſt and twelve fellows, in alluſion to Chriſt, and his twelve apoſtles. He alſo intended to endow it with revenues for the ſupport of ſeventy poor ſcholars, in alluſion to our Saviour's ſeventy diſciples; but this part of his deſign was never executed. As the founder was a native of Cumberland, the fellows were to be choſen out of Cumberland and Weſtmoreland, in preference to any other county. After the founder's death, king Edward the Third gave two tenements to this college, which he ſettled on the ſociety, by the name of Queen's-college, or hall, in remembrance of Philippa his queeen, who was a great benefactreſs to it. This beautiful college has been rebuilt, and is one entire piece of well executed modern architecture: the front, which is formed in the ſtyle of the palace of Luxemburgh, is at once magnificent and elegant: in the middle of it is a ſuperb cupola, under which is a ſtatue of the late queen Caroline. The whole area, on which this fine ſtructure ſtands, is an oblong ſquare, three hundred feet in length, and two hundred and twenty in breadth; and the area being divided by the hall and chapel, is formed into two courts: the firſt or ſouth court is a hundred and forty feet in length, and a hundred and thirty in breadth, ſurrounded by a beautiful cloyſter, except

cept on the north ſide, which is formed by the chapel and hall, and finely finiſhed in the Doric order: in the center, over a portico, leading to the north court, ſtands a handſome cupola, ſupported by eight Ionic columns. The north court is a hundred and thirty feet long, and ninety broad, having at the weſt end the library, an elegant edifice of the Corinthian order. This college conſiſts of a provoſt, twenty-two fellows, two chaplains, eight taberders, twenty-two ſcholars, two clerks, and forty exhibitioners; but the number of ſtudents of every ſort amount to above one hundred and twenty.

About the time this college was founded, the ſtudents in this univerſity ſeparated themſelves into two factions, diſtinguiſhed by the names of the Northern and Southern-men; when, after being guilty of many acts of violence, the northern-men retired to Stamford in Lincolnſhire, and began to proſecute their ſtudies in ſome halls or colleges, which had been erected there, when that town had an univerſity; but in a few years after they returned to Oxford, laws being enacted prohibiting the profeſſion of the liberal arts and ſciences at Stamford, to the prejudice of the univerſity of Oxford.

VII. New-college was founded by William of Wickham, biſhop of Wincheſter, who having erected and endowed a college at that city, for teaching grammar learning to a certain number of boys, formed a deſign, about the year 1369, of building a college in Oxford, to which they might be removed, and paſs through a regular courſe of academical ſtudies: he therefore obtained a licence of king Richard the Second, in the year 1379, for carrying his deſign into execution, and laid himſelf the firſt ſtone of a magnificent ſtructure, which being finiſhed in 1386, he called it New-

New-college; and in that year the warden and fellows were admitted with great ſolemnity. It is obſervable that the ſtatutes, habits, cuſtoms, and privileges of this college, are different from thoſe of any other in the univerſity. This ſtructure is ſeated to the eaſtward of the ſchools, and is ſeparated from Queen's-college, by a narrow lane on the ſouth. The firſt court is a hundred and ſixty-eight feet in length, having in the center a ſtatue of Minerva. The north ſide, which conſiſts of the hall and chapel, is a venerable ſpecimen of Gothic magnificence. The two upper ſtories of the eaſt ſide form the library, and on the weſt are the lodgings of the warden. The above chapel, with reſpect to beauty and grandeur, exceeds all other ſtructures of the ſame kind in the univerſity. Contiguous to it on the north is a large and lofty tower, with ten bells; and near it is a cloyſter, a hundred and forty-ſix feet in length on two ſides, and on the other two a hundred and five. From the firſt quadrangle a paſſage leads into another, called Garden-court, the beautiful area of which, by means of a ſucceſſion of retiring wings, diſplays itſelf gradually in approaching the garden, from which it is ſeparated by an iron palliſade, one hundred and thirty feet in length. The members of this college are a warden, ſeventy fellows, ten chaplains, three clerks, ſixteen choriſters, and one ſexton, together with many gentlemen commoners.

VIII. Lincoln-college was founded by Richard Fleming, biſhop of Lincoln, in 1427, the ſixth year of Henry the Sixth, when he began a college here for one rector, ſeven fellows, and two chaplains, which he deſigned as a ſeminary of divines, who might confute the doctrines of Wickliff; but he dying before this deſign was compleated, Thomas Rotheram, biſhop of Lincoln,

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in the year 1475, finiſhed the building of the college, and encreaſed its revenues; he alſo gave it a body of ſtatutes, and the name of Lincoln-college. It is ſeated in the middle of the city, and conſiſts of two quadrangular courts, but there is nothing remarkable in the building, which is not very regular: however, the chapel, which was built by archbiſhop Williams, is a handſome ſtructure, and the windows are curiouſly painted. This college maintains a rector, twelve fellows, twelve exhibitioners, eight ſcholars, and a bible-clerk, beſides the independant members.

IX. All Soul's-college was founded in the year 1437, by Henry Chichley, archbiſhop of Canterbury, and he endowed it for a warden and forty fellows, chiefly with the lands of the alien priories, diſſolved in the reign of Henry the Fifth. In 1438 he procured a charter for incorporating this ſociety, which he termed Collegium Animarum omnium defunctorum de Oxon. And hither he ſoon after ſent a body of ſtatutes, in which he directed the election of the fellows to be annually on All Soul's day. It is ſeated in High-ſtreet, to the weſtward of Queen's-college; and all the buildings, except the cloyſters, on the eaſt ſide of the quadrangle, were erected during the life of the founder. It conſiſts of two courts, the firſt of which is encompaſſed with Gothic edifices, and is a hundred and twenty-four feet in length, and ſeventy-two in breadth: the chapel on the north ſide is a ſtately pile, and the hall, which forms one ſide of an area to the eaſt, is an elegant modern room, adorned with many buſts and portraits. Adjoining to the hall is the buttery, which is a well-proportioned room, of an oval figure, with an arched ſtone roof ornamented with curious workmanſhip. The ſecond court is a magnificent Gothic quadrangle, a hundred and ſeventy-two feet

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in length, and a hundred and fifty-five in breadth; on the weſt is a cloyſter, with a grand portico; on the ſouth are the chapel and hall; on the eaſt are two Gothic towers in the center of a range of fine apartments; and on the north a library, which is ſaid to exceed every thing of the kind in the univerſity. It was founded by colonel Codrington, at the expence of 10,000 l. 6000 l. of which he ordered to be laid out in building a library, and the other 4000 l. in furniſhing it with books, to be added to his own library, which he alſo bequeathed to this college. This library is two hundred feet in length, thirty-two in breadth, and forty in height, and is a fine Gothic ſtructure, thus built in conformity to the chapel, and has eleven large windows to the ſouth, with a window of ſeventeen feet wide at each end. This college maintains a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, three clerks, and ſix choriſters. No independant ſtudents are admitted.

X. Magdalen-college was founded in 1458, by William Patten, alſo called Wainfleet, biſhop of Wincheſter, on the ſpot where an hoſpital, dedicated to St. John, had formerly ſtood. That biſhop endowed it with ſeveral lands, among which were thoſe belonging to the hoſpital, for the ſupport of a preſident, and fifty graduate ſcholars, whom he directed to be augmented or reduced, as the revenues encreaſed or diminiſhed. This college is remarkable for its moſt beautiful ſituation, it having a delightful proſpect, pleaſant groves, and ſhady walks; and is eſteemed one of the nobleſt foundations in the world. It is ſeated without the eaſt gate of the city, on the bank of the river Cherwel: a Doric portal, decorated with the ſtatue of the founder, leads to the weſt front, which is a ſtriking ſpecimen of the Gothic manner. The firſt court is a venerable old

old quadrangle, encompaſſed by a cloyſter, on the ſouth ſide of it are the chapel, the windows of which are finely painted, and the hall a ſtately Gothic room, adorned with fine pictures. From this court a narrow paſſage on the north leads to a beautiful opening, one ſide of which is bounded by a noble and elegant edifice, three hundred feet in length, in the modern taſte, conſiſting of three ſtories; two other ſides are to be added. This college has a preſident, forty fellows, thirty demies, a divinity lecturer, a ſchool-maſter, an uſher, four chaplains, an organiſt, eight clerks, and ſixteen choriſters; and the whole number of ſtudents amount to about one hundred and twenty.

XI. Brazen-noſe college was founded in the year 1511, in the third year of Henry the Eighth, by William Smith, biſhop of Lincoln, and chancellor of the univerſity, and Richard Sutton, of Preſtbury near Macclesfield, for a principal and ſixty ſcholars. They gave it the name of Brazen-noſe college, from its being built on the ſite of an ancient hall of the ſame name, diſtinguiſhed by a large braſs noſe upon the gate. This college conſiſts of two handſome quadrangles, in the leſſer of which are the chapel and library, under which is a cloyſter, but the buildings have nothing remarkable. This college maintains a principal, twenty fellows, thirty-two ſcholars, and four exhibitioners, beſides forty or fifty ſtudents.

XII. Corpus-Chriſti college was founded in the year 1513, by Richard Fox, biſhop of Wincheſter, for a warden, certain monks, and ſecular canons, deſigning it as a ſeminary to the priory of St. Swithin in Wincheſter; but three years after, he conveyed it to the uſe of ſecular ſtudents, like the other colleges of the univerſity, and enlarging the buildings, endowed it for a preſident, twenty fellows, two chaplains, two clerks, two choriſters,

and three lecturers in philoſophy and divinity, giving it the name of Corpus-Chriſti college. It is a Gothic building, conſiſting of two courts. The ſtructure of the firſt court is ancient, but on the inſide very regular. The handſomeſt part of the college is the row of lodgings, erected ſome years ago by their late preſident Dr. Thomas Turner. It has now a preſident, twenty fellows, two chaplains, twenty ſcholars, two clerks, two choriſters, and ſix gentlemen commoners.

XIII. Chriſt-church college was founded by Cardinal Wolſey, who, in the year 1525, obtained two bulls of pope Clement the Seventh, for diſſolving above forty monaſteries, and applying their eſtates towards building and endowing two colleges, one at Ipſwich in Suffolk, the place of the cardinal's birth, and another at Oxford. He alſo procured from Henry the Eighth a charter, empowering him to build and endow a college, by the name of Cardinal-college, on the ſite of a priory, dedicated to Frideſwide, one of the religious houſes juſt diſſolved, and to ſettle in it a dean, ſecular canons, and other gownſmen, for the ſtudy of the liberal arts and ſciences; and towards their maintenance, to purchaſe an eſtate of 2000 l. a year, and convey it to the ſociety. The cardinal no ſooner obtained this charter, than he laid the foundation of this college with great ſolemnity; but being charged with high treaſon in 1529, before the buildings were finiſhed, the eſtates and poſſeſſions of this ſociety were forfeited to the king. This put a ſtop to the building for three years, but at length the king iſſued out letters patent, ordering it to be carried on, ſettling the ſame revenues on the ſociety, and giving it the name of king Henry the Eighth's college; but in 1545 he ſuppreſſed the inſtitution, and the following year erected the church of this college into a cathedral,

cathedral, by the name of the Cathedral Church of Chriſt, in Oxford, founded by king Henry the Eighth, and ſettled in it a biſhop, a dean and eight canons, eight choriſters, a muſic maſter, an organiſt, and forty ſtudents, who were to be annually choſen from Weſtminſter-ſchool, and their number was encreaſed by queen Elizabeth.

The college ſtands on the ſouth ſide of the city; its front extends three hundred and eighty-ty-two feet in length, and is terminated at each end by two correſponding turrets: in the center is a noble Gothic entrance, the proportions and ornaments of which are remarkably grand: over the gate is a beautiful tower, in which are ten muſical bells, and a great bell, called Tom, that weighs near ſeventeen thouſand pounds, and at nine o'clock every night the ſtudents of the whole univerſity, at the ſound of this bell, are enjoined by ſtatute, to repair to their reſpective ſocieties. The college conſiſts of four quadrangles, one of which, diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Grand Quadrangle, is two hundred and ſixty-four feet, by two hundred and ſixty-one in the clear, and has a fountain in the middle. The greateſt part of the ſouth ſide is formed by the hall, which is conſiderably elevated above the reſt of the building, and conſidered as a detached ſtructure, is a noble ſpecimen of ancient magnificence. It is one of the largeſt and moſt ſuperb rooms in the kingdom, it extending a hundred and twenty feet in length, forty feet in breadth, and thirty feet in height; and on each ſide are eight windows. The church, which is ſeated at the eaſt end of this quadrangle, and is, as we have juſt obſerved, the cathedral of the dioceſe, is an ancient venerable ſtructure. Its tower is over the grand entrance in the front of the college; and the roof of the choir is a beautiful piece of ſtone-work:

in the eaſt window is an excellent picture of the aſcenſion, and in a window of the Latin chapel, is Jeſus diſputing with the doctors. Peckwater-court, to the north-eaſt of the Grand Quadrangle, has been rebuilt, and is perhaps the moſt elegant edifice in the univerſity. It conſiſts of three ſides, each of which has fifteen windows in front. To the eaſt of this ſquare is Canterbury-court, originally Canterbury-college: it is ſmall, and chiefly remarkable for its antiquity. The fourth quadrangle ſtands north-eaſt of Canterbury-court, and is called Chaplain's-court. The cathedral has at preſent a dean, eight canons, eight chaplains, eight ſinging-men, eight choriſters, a teacher of muſic, and an organiſt. The dean is the head of the college, which maintains thirteen regius profeſſors, one hundred and one ſcholars, and the whole number amounts to about one hundred and fifty. King Henry the Eighth having appointed no ſpecial viſitor of this college, it is only ſubject to the viſitation of the ſovereign, or commiſſioners under the great ſeal.

XIV. Trinity-college was founded by Sir Thomas Pope, Knt. lord mayor of London, in 1555. Among the religious houſes diſſolved by Henry the Eighth, was a college, for the education of the monks of the cathedral church of Durham, and thence called Durham-college. This houſe being given by king Edward the Sixth, to George Owen his phyſician, the above Sir Thomas Pope purchaſed it of that gentleman, repaired the building, and endowing it for a preſident, twelve fellows, and eight ſcholars, gave it its preſent name. This college is ſeated in the north ſuburbs, and conſiſts of two courts, in the firſt of which are the chapel, the hall, the library, and the lodgings of the preſident. The chapel, which was erected in 1695, is a fine ſtructure of the Doric order.

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The altar-piece is of cedar inlaid, the rails and ſcreen of cedar, and all adorned with exquiſite carving. The roof is enriched with fret-work, and a fine painting of the aſcenſion. The pavement, from the ſcreen to the altar, is of black and white marble. The ſecond court is an elegant pile, performed by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. The gardens, on the eaſt ſide of the college, contain about three acres of ground, and are well laid out: the firſt you enter from the grand quadrangle, conſiſts of fine gravel-walks and graſs-plats, adorned with ever-greens, with which the walls are entirely covered, as thoſe belonging to the other colleges generally are. Adjoining to this, on the ſouth, is another garden, with ſhady walks of Dutch elms, and beyond it a wilderneſs. This college has a preſident, twelve fellows, twelve ſcholars, and about eighteen independant members.

XV. St. John Baptiſt-college was founded in the year 1555, the ſecond year of Philip and Mary, by Sir Thomas White, alderman of London, who purchaſed a building, called Bernard's-college, built by archbiſhop Chicheley, for the monks of St. Bernard; and in 1557, endowed it by the name of St. John Baptiſt's-college, for a preſident, fifty fellows and ſcholars, three chaplains, three lay-clerks, and ſix choriſters; but about twenty years after, the chaplains, lay-clerks and choriſters, were ſuppreſſed by the preſident and fellows. It is ſituated in the north ſuburb, and conſiſts of two ſpacious quadrangles. In the firſt are the chapel, hall, library, and lodgings of the preſident. The chapel, which was erected in 1695, is a noble edifice, richly and beautifully finiſhed. The hall is fitted up in the modern taſte with great elegance; the ſcreen is of Portland ſtone in the Ionic order, and the wainſcot, which is in

the ſame order, is remarkably beautiful. It has a fine chimney-piece of variegated marble, over which is a picture of St. John the Baptiſt, by Titian. The room is alſo adorned with other excellent pieces, particularly the portraits of ſeveral eminent men, who have enriched this college by their beneficence. But what is ſtill more remarkable, on one ſide of the room is a marble urn, containing the heart of Dr. Rawlinſon, incloſed in a ſilver veſſel, which was placed here, according to his own deſire in his laſt will. The ſecond court is an elegant pile, performed by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. The eaſt and weſt ſides have noble piazzas, in the midſt of which are two portals, adorned with columns and carving. In one of theſe fronts, is a brazen ſtatue of king Charles the Firſt, and in the other, of his queen. The library, in this quadrangle, is well furniſhed with books, manuſcripts, and valuable curioſities. The gardens are large and well laid out. This college has a preſident, fifty fellows, two chaplains, one organiſt, five ſinging-men, ſix choriſters, two ſextons, and about ſeventy ſtudents.

XVI. Jeſus-college was founded by Hugh Price, doctor of the canon laws in this univerſity, who, in the year 1571, procured a charter from queen Elizabeth, for building and endowing a college here, for a principal, eight fellows, and eight ſcholars; when the queen agreed to furniſh timber for the building, on condition that ſhe ſhould have the firſt nomination of the principal, fellows and ſcholars, and that it ſhould be called Collegium Jeſu infra civitatem et univerſitatem Oxon, ex fundatione reginae Elizabethae: whence this ſociety claims the honour of having a royal founder. It fronts Exeter-college, and the buildings conſiſt of two courts, in the firſt of which is the hall, the

the chapel, and the principal's lodgings. On the weſt ſide of the inner court is the library, and the other three ſides are finiſhed in a decent and uniform manner. This college has a principal, nineteen fellows, eighteen ſcholars, ſeveral exhibitioners and independant ſtudents, the whole amounting to about ninety.

XVII. Wadham-college was founded by Nicholas Wadham, Eſq; ſome time a gentleman commoner in this univerſity, and Dorothy his widow. That gentleman having formed the deſign of building a college here, directed it by his will, to be carried into execution; and accordingly in 1609, his widow and executrix, purchaſed the ſite of a diſſolved priory of the canons of St. Auſtin, in the north ſkirts of the town, and erected a noble quadrangle, adorned with the ſtatues of her huſband, and herſelf over the weſtern gate. She alſo procured a royal charter, empowering her to endow it, for a warden, fifteen fellows, fifteen ſcholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and other inferior officers, by the name of Wadham-college; and in the year 1613, it was opened, and the ſeveral members admitted. This is one of the moſt regular, uniform, and beautiful colleges, belonging to the univerſity; it conſiſts of one noble quadrangle, near a hundred and thirty feet ſquare. The windows of the chapel, which is ſeated on the eaſt ſide of the court, are finely painted; the eaſt window in particular is admirably executed by Van Ling, a Dutchman; it repreſents the paſſion of our Saviour, and is ſaid to have coſt 1500 l. This college has a warden, fifteen fellows, fifteen ſcholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and ſixteen exhibitioners; but the number of ſtudents of every kind amount to about one hundred.

XVIII. Pembroke-college was founded by Thomas Tiſdale, Eſq; and Dr. Richard Whightwick.

wick. The firſt of theſe gentlemen by his will dated the 30th of January, 1610, left 5000 l. to purchaſe an eſtate for the maintenance of certain fellows and ſcholars, to be choſen from the free-ſchool of Abingdon in Berkſhire, into any college of this univerſity. The truſtees of this will offered to add ſeven fellows, and ſix ſcholars, out of this legacy, to Baliol college, but not coming to an agreement, Dr. Whightwick, formerly member of Baliol-college, perſuaded thoſe truſtees to purchaſe the building, called Broadgate-hall, which originally belonged to the priory of St. Frideſwide, promiſing, on that condition, to become a conſiderable benefactor. Mr. Tiſdale's truſtees therefore, in 1624, procured a charter, impowering them to found a college in Broadgate-hall, for a maſter, ten fellows, and ten ſcholars, which was called Pembroke-college, in honour of William, earl of Pembroke, then chancellor of the univerſity. The royal charter likewiſe impowered George, archbiſhop of Canterbury, William, earl of Pembroke, and Dr. Richard Whightwick, to form a body of ſtatutes for the ſociety, who were allowed to purchaſe lands and tenements of the yearly value of 700 l. Soon after the fellows and ſcholars were put in poſſeſſion of this college, but the number of ſtudents encreaſing to ſuch a degree, that the building could not accommodate them, the ſociety annexed to this college certain chambers, called Abingdon and Camby Lodgings. This college is ſeated on the ſouth ſide of the city, and conſiſts of two courts: the firſt is a ſmall, but neat and uniform quadrangle; the ſecond is an irregular area, on one ſide of which is the chapel, which is an elegant modern ſtructure of the Ionic order. The members of this college are a maſter, fourteen fellows, twenty-four ſcholars

lars and exhibitioners; but all the ſtudents of every kind amount to near ſixty.

XIX. Worceſter-college was originally called Glouceſter-hall, from its being a ſeminary for educating the monks of Glouceſter. On the ſuppreſſion of abbies it fell into the king's hands, and afterwards was given by queen Elizabeth to Mr. Doddington, of whom it was purchaſed by Sir Thomas White, founder of St. John Baptiſt's-college, and by him repaired, endowed, and conveyed to that ſociety, who made it a houſe for ſtudents; but in 1714, this hall being endowed by Sir Thomas Cooke of Aſtley, near the city of Worceſter, Bart. for a provoſt, ſix fellows, and ſix ſcholars, it was erected into a college, by the name of Worceſter-college. It is ſeated at the extremity of the weſtern ſuburb, upon an eminence on the bank of the Thames. It has a grand court, in which is a library of the Ionic order, a hundred feet long, ſupported by ſpacious cloyſters, and well furniſhed with books. Here are alſo a chapel and hall, which have been lately erected, each of which is fifty feet long, and twenty-five broad. This college is a well diſpoſed, elegant ſtructure, and has a garden ſloping down to the water. Here are a provoſt, twenty fellows, and ſeventeen ſcholars; but the whole number of the ſtudents amount to about fifty.

XX. Hartford-college was originally called Hart-hall, from Elias de Hartford, who, in the reign of Edward the Firſt, under that name, demiſed it to ſome ſcholars of the univerſity. In 1312 it was purchaſed by Walter Stapledon, biſhop of Exeter, the founder of Exeter-college, who aſſigned this hall, together with another tenement, called Arthur's hall, to twelve ſcholars. While the biſhop's ſcholars continued here, it was called Stapledon-hall, but they removing, it re-

covered its former name. But this hall being at length endowed by its late principal Dr. Richard Newton, for a principal, four ſenior fellows or tutors, and junior fellows or aſſiſtants, with a certain number of ſtudents or ſcholars, it was on the 8th of September, 1740, erected into a college, by the name of Hartford-college. It is ſeated oppoſite to the grand gate of the public ſchools, and conſiſts of one irregular court, which has been beautified, from a fund raiſed for that purpoſe by the late principal, and part of it conſiſts of modern buildings, according to a plan projected in the year 1747. The foundation conſiſts of a principal, four ſenior fellows or tutors, and junior fellows or aſſiſtants, beſides a certain number of ſtudents or ſcholars. The preſent number are about twenty.

Theſe are the twenty colleges, of which this celebrated univerſity at preſent conſiſts. Beſides which are five halls, and ſeveral noble buildings not yet mentioned. The halls are St. Edmund's, St. Magdalen's, St. Alban's, St. Mary's, and New-Inn hall. Theſe five halls are the only remains left of the numerous inns or academical houſes, originally poſſeſſed by the ſtudents of Oxford. They are neither endowed nor incorporated, but are ſubject to their reſpective principals, whoſe ſalaries ariſe from the rents paid for the lodgings. The principals are appointed by the chancellor of the univerſity, that of Edmund-hall excepted, whoſe principal is nominated by Queen's-college, under the patronage of which Edmund-hall ſtill remains.

Among the other public buildings belonging to the univerſity, we ought not to omit thoſe noble ſtructures, the public ſchools, the New or Radcliffian library, the Theatre, the Aſhmolean Muſeum, and the Clarendon Printing-houſe.

The

The public ſchools, of which there is one for every college, are placed together, and form the ground apartments of a very large and magnificent quadrangle, the principal front of which is on the outſide a hundred and ſeventy-five feet in length. In the center of this front is a tower, the higheſt apartments of which are uſed for aſtronomical obſervations, and philoſophical experiments. Three ſides of the upper ſtory of the quadrangle, form one entire room, called the Picture-gallery, which is furniſhed with portraits of the founders and benefactors of the univerſity, with other eminent perſons. This quadrangle was firſt erected by queen Mary, and was rebuilt in the reign of king James the Firſt, chiefly at the expence of Sir Thomas Bodley, who alſo partly erected a public library here, which he furniſhed with ſuch a number of books and manuſcripts, that with other large donations, it is now become one of the principal libraries in Europe. In one of the ſchools are placed the Arundelian marbles, and in another are an ineſtimable collection of ſtatues, &c. preſented to the univerſity by the counteſs dowager of Pomfret.

The New or Radcliffian library was founded by Dr. John Radcliffe, who left 40,000 l. for building a library for the Bodlean collection of books and manuſcripts, with a ſalary of 150 l. a year to a librarian, and 100 l. a year towards furniſhing it with new books. The firſt ſtone of this ſtructure was laid on the 17th of May, 1737, and the library opened with great ſolemnity on the 13th of April, 1745. It ſtands in the midſt of a magnificent ſquare, formed by St. Mary's church, the public ſchools, Brazen-Noſe and All-Souls colleges. It is a very noble pile of building, ſtanding upon arcades, which circularly diſpoſed, encloſe a ſpacious dome, in the center of which

is the library, and into it is an aſcent by a flight of ſpiral ſteps. The library, which is extremely magnificent and elegant, is incloſed by a circular ſeries of arches, ſupported by pilaſters of the Ionic order, and beautified with feſtoons. Behind theſe arches are formed two circular galleries, one above, and the other below, where the books are diſpoſed in elegant cabinets. The finiſhing and decorations of this elegant ſtructure are all in the higheſt taſte; the cielings are adorned with fine compartments of ſtucco; over the door is a ſtatue of the founder, and the pavement is of two colours, formed of a peculiar ſpecies of ſtone, brought from Harts-foreſt in Germany.

The Theatre is a magnificent ſtructure, erected for celebrating the public acts of the univerſity; the annual commemoration of its benefactors, and ſome other ſolemnities. The building, which is in the form of a Roman D, was erected by Sir Chriſtopher Wren in 1669, at the expence of Dr. Sheldon, archbiſhop of Canterbury, then chancellor of the univerſity, who not only beſtowed 15,000l. in building it, but endowed it with 2000l. to purchaſe lands for its perpetual repair. The front, which ſtands oppoſite to the Divinity ſchool, is adorned with Corinthian columns, and other decorations. The roof is flat, and being neither ſupported by pillars nor arch-work, reſts on the walls, which are diſtant from each other eighty feet one way, and ſeventy the other: the cieling is covered with allegorical painting. The vice-chancellor, with the two proctors, are ſeated in the ſemi-circular part, with the noblemen and doctors on each hand, the maſters of arts in the area, and the reſt of the univerſity and ſtrangers, in the galleries.

The Aſhmolean Muſeum is ſeated on the weſt ſide of the Theatre, and is an elegant, modern edifice,

edifice, built by Sir Chriſtopher Wren in 1683, at the expence of the univerſity. Its front, towards the ſtreet, extends ſixty feet in length, and has a grand portico of the Corinthian order: this edifice conſiſts of two ſtories, in the lower of which is a chemical elaboratory, and in the higher a repoſitory of natural and artificial curioſities and Roman antiquities, chiefly collected by Elias Aſhmole, and his father-in-law Sir William Dugdale.

The Clarendon Printing-houſe, which ſurpaſſes every thing of the kind in Europe, is ſeated almoſt contiguous to the theatre, and at a ſmall diſtance from the muſeum. It was founded in 1711, and built partly from the money ariſing to the univerſity, from the profits of the copy of lord Clarendon's hiſtory of the grand rebellion, the profit of which his lordſhip left to the univerſity. This is a ſtrong ſtone building, one hundred and fifteen feet in length, with ſpacious porticos in the north and ſouth fronts, ſupported by columns of the Doric order, and the top of the building is adorned with the ſtatues of Homer, Virgil, Thucydides, and the nine muſes. The eaſt part of the building is appropriated chiefly to the printing of bibles and common-prayer books. There are alſo in this ſtructure particular rooms for a letter-founder, and others for rolling-preſſes, where the Oxford almanacks and other pieces are printed from engravings on copper-plates.

We ſhall conclude our account of this city and univerſity, with a conciſe view of the religious foundations which flouriſhed here in times of popery.

About the year 730 Didanus, a petty king in theſe parts, is ſaid to have founded a nunnery at Oxford, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, which at firſt conſiſted of twelve religious virgins

of

of noble birth, under the government of his daughter Frideſwide, who was interred here, and afterwards canonized for a ſaint, whence this convent, in courſe of time, was dedicated to her memory, and generally called by her name. This houſe flouriſhed many years, and was made uſe of as a ſanctuary, which at length occaſioned its deſtruction. It is ſaid, that king Ethelred being unable to expel the Danes, who oppreſſed his ſubjects in a terrible manner, he determined to have them maſſacred, appointing the 13th of November in the year 1002 for the execution of that bloody work. Oxford was as forward in perpetrating this cruelty as any other place; when ſeveral Danes flying for refuge into St. Frideſwide's church, the enraged populace ſet it on fire, and not only burnt the Danes, but the library and all the coſtly ornaments. King Ethelred, who was at Oxford at the ſame time, rebuilt the church ſoon after, as appears by his charter, dated in the year 1004, wherein he mentions the Daniſh ſlaughter. After this it was ſucceſſively in the poſſeſſion of the ſecular canons, monks, prieſts, and regular canons of the order of St. Auſtin, and continued in being till it was diſſolved by pope Clement the Seventh, at the inſtance of Cardinal Wolſey, when its annual revenues were valued at 224 l. 4 s. 8 d. Upon the cite of this monaſtery, Chriſt-church college, as we have already intimated, was founded, and partly endowed by its revenues.

Here was an hoſpital in the reign of king John, dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, conſiſting of a maſter, and ſeveral brothers and ſiſters: king Henry the Third new founded, or at leaſt rebuilt it, laying the firſt ſtone himſelf in the year 1233. King Henry the Sixth gave the maſter and brethren leave to give up, and convey this houſe and all the eſtates belonging to it to

William

William Wainfleet, biſhop of Wincheſter, who on, or near the ſite of it, laid the foundation of Magdalen college.

The Dominican friars, on their coming to England in 1221, repaired to Oxford, where Iſabel de Bulbec, widow to Robert, earl of Oxford, gave them ground in St. Edward's pariſh, where they built a houſe and chapel; but about forty years after, they removed to a little iſland in St. Ebb's pariſh, near the water gate, given them by king Henry the Third, where they continued till the diſſolution.

The Franciſcan friars came to Oxford in 1224, and likewiſe ſettled in St. Ebb's pariſh, in houſes aſſigned them by Richard le Mercer, Richard le Miller, Thomas Walongs, and others.

St. Mary's college conſiſted of regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtin, and was appropriated to the ſtudy of the canons of the ſeveral abbies of that order in England. Henry the Sixth, by his letters patent, dated in 1435, granted them lands in the city of Oxford, where they built a houſe, and added to it ſeveral buildings, many of which are now ſtanding. The revenues of this college were little, if any at all, the canons being maintained by the great abbies of their own order.

The friars eremites of St. Auguſtin, were empowered by the pope to ſettle in any country whatever; upon which they came to London, and afterwards to Oxford, where hiring an obſcure houſe, they had ſoon an opportunity of diſtinguiſhing themſelves by their learning. They afterwards, in 1268, obtained leave to build a houſe and chapel, and theſe they rendered very beautiful ſtructures. They had their ſchools for divinity and philoſophy, and many extraordinary men proceeded from them. They had ſeveral benefactors, and after the diſſolution, the ſite and ground

ground were ſold, and the materials of the building carried off; but in the reign of king James the Firſt, Wadham college was built on the ſpot where it ſtood.

In one of the iſlets made by the river Thames, called Oſeney iſlands, an abbey of regular canons of St. Auguſtin was founded by Robert D'Oyley, with the conſent of Editha his wife, in the year 1129. The houſe at its firſt erection was but ordinary, but in the following ages, by the aſſiſtance of ſeveral benefactors, it became an abbey, and according to ſome authors, was ſecond to none in England. It was ſurrendered to Henry the Eighth after it had flouriſhed four hundred and ten years, when the revenues were valued at 654l. a year by Dugdale; but at 756l. by Speed. Upon the erection of the new biſhopric by Henry the Eighth in 1542, this abbey was changed into a cathedral church, dedicated to Chriſt and the Virgin Mary, in which were ſettled a dean and ſix prebendaries, who were the chapter of the biſhop of Oxford; but this eſtabliſhment continued only three or four years; for, in 1546, the convential church of St. Frideſwide, then called King Henry the Eighth's college, was made the cathedral, and called Chriſtchurch.

In the year 1225 the Carmelite friars firſt ſettled in this city, in a houſe given them by Nicholas de Molis, ſome time governor of Oxford caſtle, on the ground where Worceſter college now ſtands; but ſixty years after, king Edward the Second gave to twenty-four of theſe friars a royal palace, called Beaumont, built by king Henry the Firſt, in the north part of the city, where they continued till the diſſolution.

The friars of penance, or ſackcloth, came into England in 1259, and to Oxford in 1262, where they

they obtained a ſmall ſpot of ground without the weſt gate, on which they built a houſe and chapel. They afterwards purchaſed a little field with money given them for that purpoſe; but this order being aboliſhed in 1307, and their poſſeſſions coming into the king's hands, he gave them to the Franciſcans, who demoliſhed all the buildings.

Recoley, by ſome called North-Oſeney, was an abbey of Ciſtercian monks in the ſuburbs of Oxford, ſeated among pleaſant groves, watered by rivulets. It was founded in 1281 by Richard, earl of Cornwall, who endowed it with lands and tenements. It had ſeveral other benefactors, and at the diſſolution had twenty-one monks. Part of this houſe, together with the refectory, was ſtanding in the year 1720. At the diſſolution its revenues were valued at 174 l. a year. It was afterwards given to the dean and canons of Chriſt-church.

On the ſouth ſide of the ſtreet, without the Eaſt-gate, Edmund, earl of Cornwall, founded a ſmall houſe and chapel in the year 1291, for the Trinitarian friars of the redemption of captives; in which, and in a chapel dedicated to the Trinity, within Eaſt-gate, the brethren of this order, and ſeveral poor ſcholars, who lived upon alms, continued till near the time of the general diſſolution.

The Crouched friars had, in a place called Grantpount, near Broadgate-hall, a houſe given them in the reign of Edward the Firſt, by Richard Cary, mayor of the city; but about the year 1348, they procured a houſe and chapel near St. Peter's church in the eaſt.

About a mile eaſtward of the city, there is yet in being a ſmall hoſpital, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, as ancient as the reign of king Henry the Firſt. It formerly conſiſted of a maſter, who was a prieſt,

a prieſt, a clerk, ſix infirm or leprous brethren, and two in health, to take care of the houſe. In 1328 king Edward the Third gave it to Oriel college, upon condition of maintaining in it a chaplain and eight poor brethren.

In this city were born the following eminent perſons diſtinguiſhed by their learning.

Thomas Cooper, a learned biſhop of the ſixteenth century, was born, about the year 1517, in the city of Oxford, and educated in the univerſity of that place, where he took the degrees in arts, phyſic, and divinity. As he was a zealous proteſtant, he followed the practice of phyſic during the dangerous reign of queen Mary; but, on the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, returned to the ſtudy of divinity, and became a moſt eloquent and popular preacher. His firſt ſtation in the church was that of dean of Chriſt-church in Oxford, from whence he roſe to the deanery of Glouceſter, to the ſee of Lincoln, and, laſt of all, to the rich biſhopric of Wincheſter, which he held till his death. He expired on the 19th of April, 1594, and was interred in the cathedral of Wincheſter. Beſides ſome ſermons, and other ſmall tracts, he compiled a *Chronicle* and a *Latin Dictionary*.

Thomas Harriot, the firſt inventor of the way of Notation now univerſally uſed in Algebra, was born and bred at Oxford, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf particularly by his knowledge in the mathematics. His firſt patron among the great was the famous Sir Walter Raleigh, who ſent him to his new colony of Virginia, where Mr. Harriot made a map of the country. Upon his return to England, he was introduced to the acquaintance of Henry Piercy, earl of Northumberland, who gave him a penſion of one hundred and twenty pounds

pounds a year, and kept an open table for him, and ſome other of his mathematical friends in the Tower, where his lordſhip was then impriſoned. In a little time after the death of Raleigh, Mr. Harriot was ſeized with a cancer in his lip, which put a period to his life on the 2d of July, 1621. He left behind him ſeveral works in manuſcript, none of which have been printed except his *Artis Analyticae Praxis*, &c. the ſubſtance of which was borrowed by Des Cartes, and for a long time paſſed upon the world as the invention of that gentleman; but it was afterwards reſtored to its right owner.

William Chillingworth, a learned writer and eminent divine of the ſeventeenth century, was the ſon of Mr. William Chillingworth, citizen, and ſome time mayor of Oxford; and was born in the pariſh of St. Martin in that city, in the month of October, 1602. Having received the rudiments of claſſical learning at a private ſchool, he was admitted a ſcholar of Trinity college, Oxford, where he took the degrees of maſter and bachelor of arts, and in 1628 was made fellow of his college. About this time, by the arts and inſinuations of the famous Jeſuit, John Fiſher, he was unhappily converted to the Romiſh religion, and perſuaded to retire to the Jeſuits college at Douay: but, at the earneſt interceſſion of Dr. Laud, then biſhop of London, he returned ſoon after to his native country; and having examined with greater care, the points controverted between the Papiſts and the Proteſtants, he embraced once more the reformed doctrines. This engaged him in a literary war with ſeveral Roman-Catholics, over whom, in the opinion of moſt men, he always obtained the victory; and his triumph was rendered complete by a piece, which he publiſhed in 1637, intitled, *the Religion of Proteſtants a ſafe way*

way to Salvation. But, notwithſtanding his return to the Engliſh church, he had ſtill ſome difficulty with regard to the ſubſcription of the thirty-nine articles; and this prevented him, at leaſt, for ſome time, from receiving any eccleſiaſtical preferment: but having at laſt overcome his ſcruples, and conſented to ſubſcribe, he was promoted to the chancellorſhip of the church of Sarum, with the prebend of Brixworth in Northamptonſhire annexed. Upon the breaking out of the civil war he adhered to the royal cauſe, and attended his majeſty at the ſiege of Glouceſter in 1643, when obſerving the ſoldiers in want of materials to carry on their attacks, he propoſed making engines, in imitation of the Roman *Teſtudines cum pluteis*, in order to ſtorm the place; but, before his propoſal could be put in execution, the ſiege was ſuddenly raiſed by the earl of Eſſex. Soon after he was taken priſoner, among other royaliſts, in Arundel caſtle; and being conveyed to Chicheſter, he died there, January the 30th, 1644, and was interred in the cathedral of that city. His works are numerous and well known; and are no leſs eſteemed for perſpicuity of ſtyle, than force of reaſoning.

Edward Pocock, one of the greateſt maſters of Oriental learning in the ſeventeenth century, was born, November the 8th, 1604, in the city of Oxford, and educated in the univerſity of that place. He applied himſelf early to the ſtudy of the eaſtern languages; and in this he made ſo conſiderable a proficiency, that, before he had attained to the twenty-ſixth year of his age, he was appointed chaplain to the Engliſh factory at Aleppo. There he reſided for the ſpace of ſix years; during which, all the time he could ſpare from the duties of his office, was employed either in perfecting himſelf in the Arabic tongue, or in collect-

collecting Greek and Oriental manuſcripts for Dr. Laud, then biſhop of London, who had given him a commiſſion for that purpoſe. Returning to his native country in 1636, he was nominated by Dr. Laud, then archbiſhop of Canterbury, to read the Arabic lecture, which that primate had founded at Oxford. In a little more than a year after he ſet out once more for the eaſt; and arriving at Conſtantinople, employed himſelf as formerly in collecting coins and curious manuſcripts. Having compleated his collection, he returned by the way of Paris, and was there introduced to the famous Hugo Grotius, whom he acquainted with his deſign of tranſlating into Arabic that author's excellent treatiſe concerning the truth of the Chriſtian Religion. Grotius very readily aſſented to the propoſal, and at the ſame time authorized him to make ſuch alterations and improvements in the original as he ſhould think proper. In 1648, he was appointed by the king (then a priſoner in the Iſle of Wight) profeſſor of Hebrew, and prebendary of Chriſt-church Oxford; and this grant was ſoon after confirmed by the committee of both houſes: but refuſing to take the Engagement, he was, in 1650, ejected from theſe preferments, though re-inſtated in them again at the time of the reſtoration. This great event he ſurvived above thirty years, and dying September the 10th, 1691, in his eighty-ſeventh year, was interred in one of the north iſles adjoining to the choir in the cathedral of Chriſt church. His learning, which was great, was his ſmalleſt recommendation. His piety, probity, meekneſs and humanity, ſecured him the love of all his contemporaries, and have made his name to be mentioned by them in the moſt endearing expreſſions. His works are numerous, and greatly eſteemed by thoſe who are converſant

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in the Oriental languages. His *Arabic Proverbs*, amounting to ſix thouſand, his *Specimen Hiſtoriae Arabum*, and his *Porta Moſis*, are the moſt conſiderable. He was likewiſe concerned in the edition of the Polyglott Bible, and wrote commentaries upon the Minor Prophets.

William D'Avenant, poet laureat in the reigns of Charles the Firſt and Charles the Second, was born in Oxford in the year 1605. His father, Mr. John D'Avenant, a vintner of that place, was a man, it is ſaid of a very peaceable diſpoſition, and his mother a woman of great ſpirit and beauty; and as their houſe was much frequented by the celebrated Shakeſpeare, this gave occaſion to a report, that the tragedian ſtood in a nearer relation, than that of a friend, to our author. Be this as it will, young D'Avenant, having finiſhed his ſtudies at the univerſity of his native place, was taken into the ſervice, firſt of Frances, dutcheſs of Richmond, and afterwards of Fulke Greville, lord Brooke, who had himſelf an excellent taſte for poetry. During his reſidence in the families of theſe two noble patrons, he wrote ſeveral plays and poems; and upon the death of Ben Johnſon, in 1637, was appointed poet laureat. When the civil wars began he adhered to his ſovereign, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood; and, after the ruin of that prince's affairs, he retired to Paris, where he wrote his *Gondibert*. There too he formed a ſcheme for carrying over to Virginia a conſiderable number of artificers, eſpecially weavers; but he had no ſooner ſet ſail with his ſmall company, than he was ſeized by the ſhips of the Engliſh parliament, and carried priſoner, firſt to the Iſle of Wight, and thence to the Tower of London. For ſome time he was thought to be in the moſt imminent danger; but at length his life was happily ſaved,

and

and even his liberty reſtored, by the powerful mediation of the celebrated poet Milton. Reduced, however, to very low circumſtances, he began to bethink himſelf how he might repair them; and as he knew that a play-houſe was utterly inconſiſtent with the ſanctity of thoſe times, he opened an opera for muſic and declamation. Theſe operas were ſoon after ſucceeded by other repreſentations of a more dramatic nature; and upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, Sir William D'Avenant was placed at the head of the duke's company of players, who acted in the Cock-pit in Drury-Lane. This return of his good fortune he ſurvived about eight years, and dying April the 7th, 1668, was interred in Weſtminſter-abbey, where, in imitation of Ben Johnſon's humorous epitaph, the following inſcription was engraved on his tomb-ſtone, *O Rare Sir William D'Avenant!*

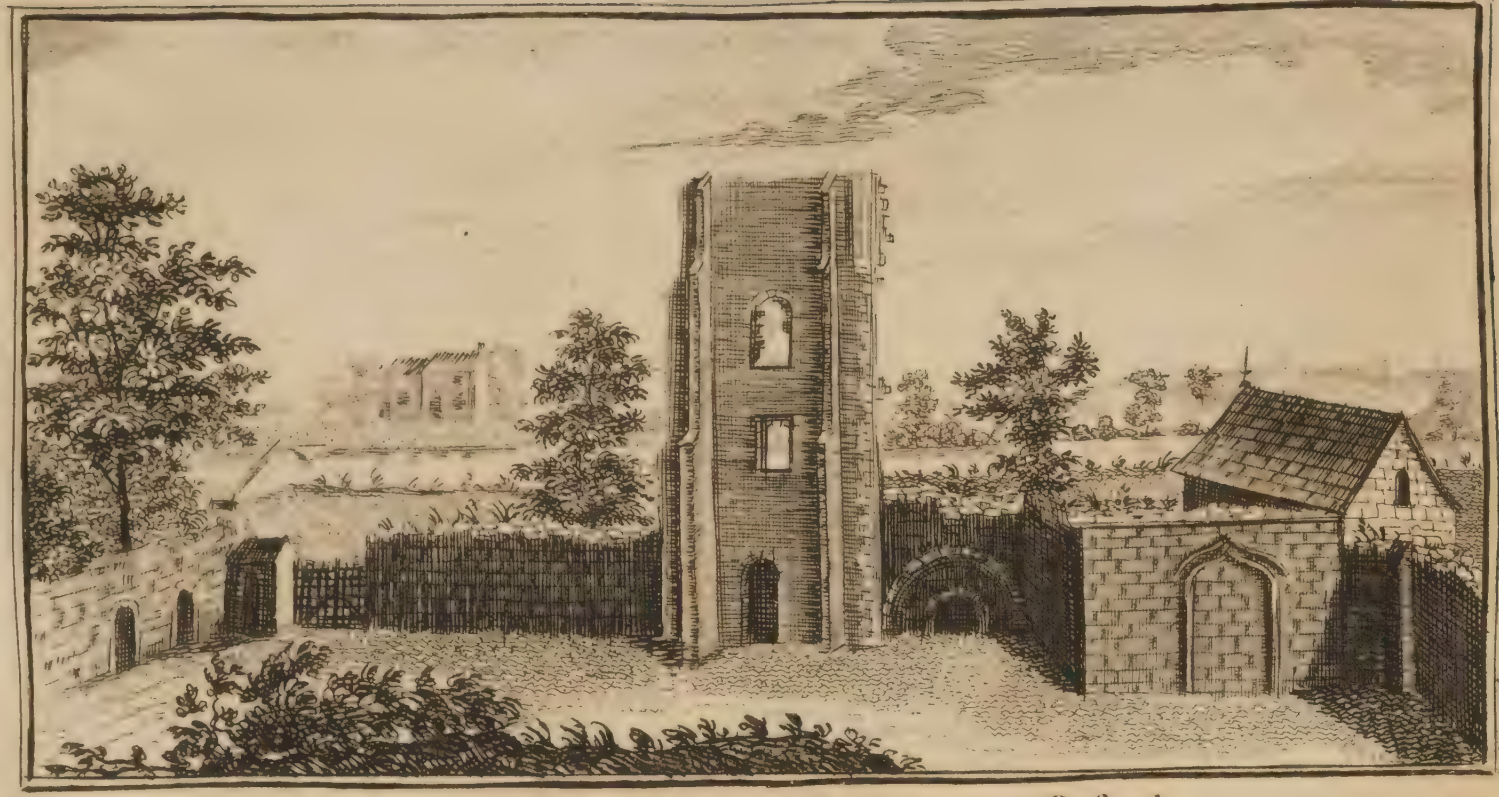
Anthony Wood, or Anthony a Wood, was deſcended of a genteel family, and born December the 17th, 1632, at Oxford, where he was alſo educated. Naturally of a ſtudious and contemplative turn of mind, and indeed, in the ſtricteſt ſenſe of the word *Helluo Librorum*, he devoted himſelf entirely to the purſuits of literature. In 1660 he began to collect materials for his *Hiſtoria & Antiquitates Univerſitatis Oxonienſis*, which was publiſhed in 1674. He ſold the copy to the univerſity for a hundred pounds. It was originally written in Engliſh, but tranſlated into Latin by another hand, under the inſpection of Dr. Fell. He afterwards compiled his *Athenae Oxonienſes*, which made its appearance in 1691. Upon the publication of this work, he was attacked by the univerſity, on account of ſome reflections he had thrown upon Edward, earl of Clarendon, lord high-chancellor of England, and chancellor of Oxford.

Oxford. He was likewiſe animadverted upon by biſhop Burnet, in a letter which that prelate wrote to the biſhop of Litchfield and Coventry. This occaſioned Mr. Wood's writing his *Vindication*, &c. in 1693. He ſurvived this period about two years, dying in the end of October, 1695. The diſeaſe, which carried him off, was a total ſuppreſſion of urine.

At LITTLEMORE, or LIDMORE, a village near Oxford, was a Benedictine nunnery, founded by ſome of the predeceſſors of Henry the Third, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. This was one of the ſmall convents ſuppreſſed by the pope's bull in 1524, and given to cardinal Wolſey, towards founding his new college at Oxford, called Chriſt-church. Its revenues at its ſuppreſſion were valued at 33 l. 6 s. 8 d. a year.

At STUDLEY, ſix miles north-eaſt of Oxford, and on the borders of Buckinghamſhire, Bernard de St. Walerico, about the middle of the reign of king Henry the Second, built and endowed a priory for Benedictine nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which, at the time of the ſuppreſſion, was valued at about 82 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 102 l. by Speed.

GODSTOW, a village two miles north of Oxford, was once remarkable for a priory of Benedictine nuns, founded by a rich widow named Editha, who became the firſt abbeſs in 1138. Fair Roſamond, the daughter of Walter, lord Clifford, was a nun in this houſe, and was greatly famed for her beauty. At the ſolicitation of Henry the Second, ſhe left the nunnery, and was taken to Woodſtock, as has been already mentioned. Part of the church is ſtill ſtanding, and more particularly the tower; but all the reſt is down, except a very ſmall part of the walls. Of theſe ruins we have given an engraved view. This priory was valued



The West View of Godstow Nunnery, *near* Oxford.

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valued at the ſuppreſſion at 274 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 320 l. by Speed.

A few miles north-eaſt of Oxford is OTTMOOR, a low level ground, frequently overflowed in the winter. A ſmall Ciſtercian monaſtery was built upon it, and named Otteley, from an adjacent wood; but its low ſituation rendering it diſagreeable to the monks, it was removed by Alexander, biſhop of Lincoln, to Thame, where he erected another for them in his park.

At TEMPLE-COWLEY, a little to the ſouth-eaſt of Oxford, queen Maud, the wife of king Stephen, gave the manor of the village to the knights templars, who built a houſe of their order upon it, in which was a preceptor and brethren, who afterwards removed to Sandford near Oxford, the manor of which place was given to the templars by Sir Thomas de Sandford, in the reign of Richard the Firſt, or king John. After the diſſolution of this order, it became the chief reſidence of a preceptor, and brethren of the knights hoſpitallers.

From Oxford a road leads eight miles north by weſt to WOODSTOCK, which is ſo called from the Saxon Wudeſtoc, which ſignifies a woody place. It has been a royal ſeat, and here king Alfred tranſlated Boetius de Conſolatione Philoſophiae. In the time of king Ethelred, it was ſo conſiderable a place, that he called a parliament here. After the conqueſt Henry the Firſt took great delight in the palace of this town, made ſome additions to the buildings, and encloſed the park with a ſtone wall. In this palace Henry the Second reſided, when Rice, prince of Wales, came in the year 1163, to do homage to that king and his ſon. But what renders this place moſt famous, is a labyrinth built by that prince, called Roſamand's bower, with a houſe in it, to ſecrete his

concubine Roſamond Clifford, from Eleanor his queen; but there are now no traces, either of the palace or bower. In this palace the princeſs Elizabeth, afterwards queen, was for ſome time kept priſoner.

The town of Woodſtock is governed by a mayor, a recorder, four aldermen, and ſixteen common-councilmen, and ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by the burgeſſes and freemen, who amount to about four hundred in number. The ſtreets are well paved, and there are here very good inns. The inhabitants have a manufacture of ſteel chains for watches, and other things in poliſhed ſteel; they are alſo famous for waſh-leather gloves, which are eſteemed the beſt in England; but the number of hands employed in each of theſe articles is very inconſiderable. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, Richard Cromwell, citizen of London, founded a ſchool here, and there are alſo three alms-houſes. The town has a market on Tueſdays, and five fairs, held on the 25th of March, and the Tueſday in Whitſun-week, for all ſorts of cattle; and the Tueſday after the 1ſt of November, and on the 2d of October, for cheeſe, and all ſorts of cattle; and on the 17th of December, for cheeſe and hogs.

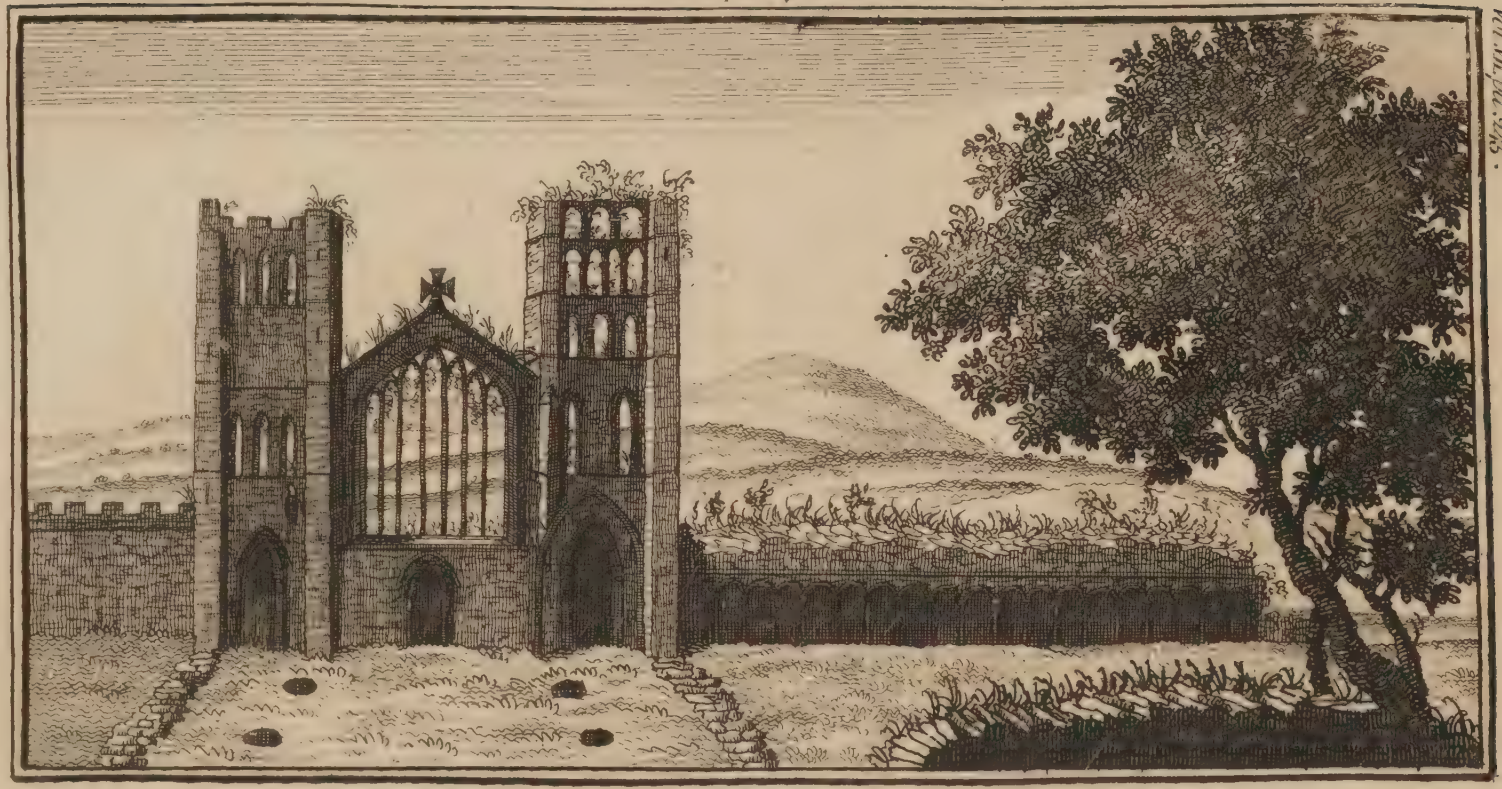
The honour and manor of the town and hundred of Woodſtock were, in the reign of the late queen Anne, ſettled by parliament upon John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, who commanded the army of the grand alliance, formed by Great-Britain, Holland, Portugal, and other powers, againſt France and Spain; and upon his deſcendants male and female, as a monument of national gratitude for his bravery and conduct; and a palace was alſo erected for him at the public expence, in a very delightful ſituation, about half a mile diſtant from Woodſtock, which, to commemorate

memorate the important victory he obtained over the French and Bavarians at Blenheim, was called Blenheim-houſe. It was built by Sir John Vanbrugh, and though a heavy building, like the reſt of that architect's performances, muſt be acknowledged to be a magnificent ſtructure. On entering the firſt grand hall, which is one of the fineſt in England, every perſon of taſte is diſguſted at its dimenſions, it being fifty-three feet long, forty-four broad, and ſixty high; this extraordinary height has a diſagreeable effect, from its taking off the appearance of largeneſs in the area at bottom. In the center is the ſaloon door, and on each ſide, ſome very large and magnificent columns, in a good taſte and proportion; and over them is a gallery in a grand ſtyle. The ſaloon has the ſame defect with reſpect to height, it being forty-four feet long, thirty-three broad, and forty-five high. The door-caſes are of marble, and exceeding magnificent. On the left is a ſuit of rooms, as a drawing-room, twenty-eight feet ſquare, adorned with pictures, by Rubens, as the Holy Family, the Roman Charity, the Virgin and child, their flight into Egypt, the offerings of the wiſe men, in which the old men's heads are exceeding fine, Lot driven out of Sodom, our Saviour bleſſing the children, Paracelſus, wonderfully fine, and pope Gregory. The breakfaſt room is twenty-four feet ſquare, and adorned with fine pictures of Silenus and Andromeda, and three very fine ones by Rembrandt, of the woman taken in adultery, the circumciſion, and an old man. The library is a hundred and eighty feet in length, forty-three broad in the middle, and thirty at each end. This is one of the nobleſt rooms of the kind in England; it is adorned with marble pilaſters, and at one end is a very fine ſtatue of queen Anne, in white marble, by Ryſbrack. Some of

the apartments are hung with exceeding fine Bruſſel's tapeſtry, containing the hiſtory of the great duke's campaigns. Among the other pictures, in this palace, are the Loves of the gods, by Titian; a preſent from the king of Sardinia; ſeveral large pieces, by Rubens, particularly that celebrated one of himſelf, his wife, and child; and here is a gallery, the cieling of which is painted by la Guerre, and the other parts by Sir James Thornhill. There is an aſcent to this palace, from the town of Woodſtock, over a bridge of one arch, which is a hundred and ninety feet in diameter, and coſt 20,000l. Over a pediment, in the front of the houſe, is a fine marble buſt of Lewis the Fourteenth, bigger than the life, taken from the gate of the citadel of Tournay. The gardens, which contain above a hundred acres, are well laid out, having fine walks, groves and viſtas, terminated by ſome remarkable objects in the neighbouring country. Several additions were made to this villa after the duke's death, by his dutcheſs; particularly a triumphal arch at the entrance from Woodſtock, and an obeliſk in the chief avenue of Woodſtock park, on which is inſcribed an elegant ſummary of the duke's actions and character, wrote by the late Dr. Hare, who had been his grace's chaplain, and was afterwards raiſed to the ſee of Chicheſter. The duke's deſcendants are obliged, by way of homage, for the tenure of this manor, to preſent annually a ſtandard to the ſovereign on the ſecond of Auguſt, the anniverſary of the victory of Blenheim.

Four miles ſouth of Woodſtock is ENSHAM, a village ſeated among delightful meadows. Notice has been taken of it in the moſt early times, and in king Etheldred's charter, it is termed a famous place. Cutholf the Saxon, firſt took it from the Britons, and Aethelmare, earl of Devonſhire, erected

The East View of the Inside of Eynsham Abbey, *near* Oxford.



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erected and endowed a Benedictine abbey here, before the year 1005, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Bendedict, and All-Saints. It was repaired by Henry the First, and had afterwards many benefactors. In the year 1539, it was surrendered to Henry the Eighth, when its revenues was valued at 441 l. 12 s. 2 d. a year, after which it belonged to the earl of Derby. The ruins of this structure, of which we have given an engraved view, shew that it was a most magnificent edifice; for the front, which is still standing, is pretty entire, and it has two fine towers with battlements on the top.

A small distance to the south of Woodstock, and about three miles to the north-east of Ensham, are the villages of BEGBROOK and BLADEN, which are only remarkable for an old fortification, commonly called the Round-castle, which stands near Begbrook-church, though it is in the parish of Bladen. Here is a passage under ground down to the river Chirwell; but upon what account it was built, historians are silent. In the quarries here is a gritty sort of oker, sometimes seen in the seams of the rocks, and sometimes in the body of the stone.

Ten miles to the eastward of Woodstock, and thirteen miles north by east of Oxford, is BICESTER, or BISSETER, by the Saxons called Birnceſter, a town seated on the road from Oxford to Buckingham. It is a long, straggling place, with a church, a meeting-house, and a free-school. It is remarkable for its excellent malt-liquor, and has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, held on the Friday in Easter-week, the first Friday in June, the 5th of August, and the 13th of December, for horses, sheep, swine, wool, toys, &c. Dr. Plot informs us, that a Danish spur was found in this town, which he considers as a proof

that the Danes had been here, and particularly, that the battle between king Ethelred, and his brother Alfred, againſt the Danes, was fought near this town.

At Biceſter Gilbert Baſſet, baron of Heddington, built a monaſtery in the year 1182, for a prior, and eleven Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Eadburgh, which was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 147 l. 2 s. 10 d. per annum; and in 1355, a licenſe was granted to Nicholas Jurdan, hermite, warden of a chapel here, dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, to found an hoſpital in this town for poor and infirm people, to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John Baptiſt, and to purchaſe lands for endowing it, to the value of 5 l. a year, but it does not appear that this deſign was ever carried into execution.

At the diſtance of about a mile and a half to the ſouth of Biceſter, are the ruins of ALCHESTER, which in the Saxon language ſignifies an old caſtle. It is ſeated on the Roman conſular way, called Akeman-ſtreet, in a common belonging to the inhabitants of Wendlebury, a neighbouring village, and every one has a ſmall part of it to plow up. The huſbandmen told Dr. Stukeley, that they frequently break their ploughs againſt foundations of hewn ſtone and brick. An infinite number of coins have been found here, and they have alſo found images, and many other antiquities. The city was fenced round with a bank and ditch, which are ſtill viſible, though both are greatly changed by the plough. The little brook that runs through the ditch on the ſouth ſide, originally encompaſſed the city, and the ſides of the city faced the four cardinal points. There are ſtill the traces of a ſtreet that paſſed through the middle of the city from ſouth to north, and another ſtreet croſſed the contrary way. Great foundations have likewiſe been found all round the fields,

fields, and on the weſt ſide is an artificial mount, called Caſtlehill, which is full of Roman bricks, ſtones and foundations.

Near ARDLEY, a village three miles north-weſt of Biceſter, was an ancient caſtle, the ruins of which are ſtill to be ſeen in a little wood on the weſt ſide of the town. It is thought to have flouriſhed in the time of king Stephen, and to have been one of the eleven hundred new built caſtles he is ſaid to have demoliſhed.

We ſhall now proceed back to Woodſtock, and from thence to WHITNEY, or WITNEY, a very ancient town ſixty-three miles north-weſt of London. It was well known before the conqueſt: Edward the Second made it a free borough, and it ſent members to parliament; but this privilege ceaſed in the thirty-third year of the reign of Edward the Third. It chiefly conſiſts of one ſtreet about a mile long, and is remarkable for its woollen manufactory, which conſiſts of what is called Kerſey-pieces, coarſe bear-ſkins, and blankets. The two firſt they make for the North-American market, vaſt quantities being ſent to New York and up the river St. Lawrence. This is the principal town in England for blanketing. The fineſt blankets, which riſe in price to 3l. a pair, are exported to Spain and Portugal; but all are firſt ſent to London in broad-wheel waggons. The fineſt wool they work comes from Herefordſhire and Worceſterſhire, and the coarſeſt from Lincolnſhire. There are at preſent above five hundred weavers in the town, who work up ſeven thouſand packs of wool annually, and no leſs than three thouſand perſons are employed in carding and ſpinning. The blankets are ſcoured in mills erected for that purpoſe on the river Windruſh, the water of which, from a peculiar obſterſive nitrous quality, is very fit for this uſe. The town is very

populous, and has an hoſpital for ſix poor blanket-makers widows; with a free-ſchool founded and endowed by Mr. Henry Box, a druggiſt in London, with a fine library adjoining to it: the grocer's company in London are the governors of this ſchool, and its viſitors the members of Oriel college, Oxford. Here is alſo a ſchool for twelve poor children founded in 1723, by John Holloway; and a perſon named Blake has made ſuch an addition, that thirty children are now taught in it. Whitney has a market on Thurſdays, and three fairs, held on Thurſday in Eaſter-week, and the 29th of June, for all ſorts of cattle, and on the 23d of November, for cheeſe and cattle of all ſorts.

At COGGS, near Whitney, was an alien priory of Black friars, ſubordinate to the abbey of the Trinity at Fiſcamp in Normandy, who ſeem to have been placed here by the anceſtors of Manaſſer Arſic, lord of the barony of this place, before the year 1103.

Two miles and a half north-weſt of Whitney is MINSTER LOVEL, where was a priory belonging to the abbey of St. Mary de Ibreio in Normandy. At firſt it was the eſtate of Roger de Cheney, but was afterwards bought by the family of the Lovels, whence it was called Minſter Lovel; but Francis lord Lovel joining king Richard the Third in the battle of Boſworth field, was forced to fly, and upon the acceſſion of Henry the Seventh, his eſtate was ſeized, and with ſeveral others, were given to Jaſper, duke of Bedford, half brother to king Henry the Sixth, but was afterwards again in the poſſeſſion of the lord Lovel.

Seven miles to the ſouth by weſt of Whitney is BAMPTON, which is ſeated on a ſmall river, that runs into the Thames or Iſis, and was a place of greater conſequence before the conqueſt, than it is at preſent. It has a charity-ſchool for twenty

twenty children, and a market on Wednesdays, to which are brought in great quantities leathern jackets, gloves, breeches and stockings, from Whitney and other neighbouring places, and purchased for the peasants of Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire. It has a fair on the 26th of August, for horses and toys.

John Philips, a most elegant and ingenious poet, in the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries, son of Dr. Stephen Philips, archdeacon of Salop, was born, December the 13th, 1676, at Bampton, and educated first at Winchester-school, and afterward at Christ-church in Oxford. His friends intended him for the profession of physic, to which he was likewise led by his own inclination; and though he was prevented, by his infirm state of health, from pursuing that study, he ever after retained for it a particular fondness. Having contracted an early acquaintance with the works of Homer and Virgil, as also with those of the celebrated Milton; and having farther observed how very freely as well as judiciously the last author has, in many places, imitated the two former, he resolved himself to follow the same example; and with what signal success he executed his resolution, the works he left behind him will remain an eternal monument. Distinguished no less by the sweetness of his temper and the simplicity of his manners, than by the elegance of his taste and the strength of his genius, he was beloved and esteemed by all his contemporaries; and the lord Bolingbroke, in particular, entertained him for some time in his family, and employed him in writing a poem on the famous battle of Blenheim. His *Splendid Shilling* had appeared a little before; and his poem upon *Cyder* was published soon after. He had likewise laid a plan for writing a poem upon

the reſurrection, and the day of judgment; but this he did not live to execute; for he died of a conſumption, February the 15th, 1708, in the thirty-ſecond year of his age. His body was interred in the cathedral of Hereford; but a monument was erected to his memory in Weſtminſter abbey.

From Bampton a road extends ſeven miles to BURFORD, which is ſeated on the banks of the river Windruſh, about ſeven miles to the weſt of Whitney, and is the place where Cuthred, king of the Weſt-Saxons, not being able to bear with the cruelty and baſe exactions of king Ethelbald, gave him battle, and took away his ſtandard, on which was a golden dragon. Hence is ſuppoſed to have ariſen an ancient cuſtom of the inhabitants of this town carrying yearly an artificial dragon about the town, with great jollity, on Midſummer-Eve. This battle was fought in a field near Burford, ſtill called Battle-edge. Burford had a charter from king Henry the Second, and ſtill retains the appearance of a corporation, it having a common ſeal, and being governed by two bailiffs and other officers. It has a great market on Saturdays, which is famous for ſaddles; and on a heath near the town, called the Seven-Downs, there are frequent horſe-races. Burford has two fairs, held on the 5th of July, for horſes, ſheep, cows, and ſmall ware; and on the 25th of September, for cheeſe and toys Here was a ſmall priory or hoſpital dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt, which was valued at the diſſolution at 13l. 6s. 6d. per annum.

Peter Heylin, an Engliſh divine and writer of the ſeventeenth century, was born, November the 29th, 1600, at Burford, and educated at Hart-hall in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity. His firſt attempts as an author,

thor, were in the dramatic way; having wrote, while at college, a tragedy, called *Spurius*, which, though never printed, was ſo well approved, that it was acted in the apartments of the preſident of his hall. This piece procured him ſo high a reputation, that he roſe, in a little time, to ſome conſiderable preferments in the church; being appointed ſucceſſively one of the chaplains in ordinary to his majeſty, rector of Hemingford in Huntingdonſhire, and prebendary of Weſtminſter: but of theſe, and indeed of all his ſubſtance, he was deprived during the civil wars; but after the reſtoration, he was again re-eſtabliſhed in his ſpiritualities, and advanced, beſides, to the ſub-deanery of Weſtminſter. He died May the 8th, 1662, and was interred before his own ſtall, within the choir of the abbey, where a monument was erected to his memory. His works are numerous, but not very valuable. His *Coſmography* is the moſt eſteemed.

Lucius Carey, eldeſt ſon of Henry Carey, lord viſcount Folkland, was born, as is ſuppoſed, at Burford in Oxfordſhire, about the year 1610. He received his education in Trinity college in Dublin, and in St. John's college in Cambridge. In his youth he was of a wild diſpoſition, and was even for ſome exploits thrown into the Fleet. Acquiring, however, in the courſe of his travels, which he performed under the care of a very eminent tutor, a more ſolid and ſedate turn of mind, he became a moſt accompliſhed nobleman; being a complete maſter of many of the ancient and modern languages, and thoroughly verſed in every branch of polite literature. In the beginning of king Charles the Firſt's reign, he adhered to the parliament; but, upon the breaking out of the civil war, he went over to the king's ſide, being, at that time, a member of the privy-council, and

ſecretary of ſtate. He attended his majeſty at the battle of Edgehill, where, though expoſed to ſome danger, he eſcaped unhurt. But the firſt battle of Newbury proved fatal to him. The morning before the action he called for a clean ſhirt, and being aſked the reaſon of it, anſwered, "that if he were ſlain in the engagement, they "ſhould not find his body in foul linen." And when diſſuaded by his friends, from going into the fight, as having no particular obligation to it, being no military officer, he ſaid; "I am weary "of the times, and foreſee much miſery to my "country; but believe that I ſhall be out of it "ere night." His preſage, unhappily, was but too fully verified. He was ſhot in the belly with a muſquet-ball, and falling from his horſe, his body was not found till next morning. This event happened on the 20th of September, 1643. Never any man who engaged in a party (if adhering to his ſovereign can deſerve that name) was ſo much beloved by thoſe of oppoſite views. He wrote ſome poems and ſpeeches, with other tracts, which were afterwards publiſhed. He likewiſe aſſiſted the famous Mr. Chillingworth in compoſing his book *Of the Religion of Proteſtants*.

CHARLBURY, nine miles north-eaſt of Burford, and between ſix and ſeven north-weſt of Woodſtock, had a market, which is now gone to decay, but has four fairs, held on the 1ſt of January, the ſecond Friday in Lent, and the ſecond Friday after the 12th of May (except it falls on a Friday, and then it is on the Friday following,) for all ſorts of cattle, and on the 10th of October, for cheeſe and cattle of all ſorts.

Seven miles to the north by weſt of Charlbury is CHIPPING-NORTON, which was a place of ſome note in the time of the Saxons, from whom it received the name of Chipping, on account of its

its having a market, the word Ceapan, from which Chipping is derived, ſignifying to cheapen; and it was thus named to diſtinguiſh it from another town to the ſouth-weſt of Whitney, called Briſe-Norton. In the reign of Edward the Firſt, it ſent members to parliament for one ſeſſion, and for two in that of Edward the Third, but never ſince. It has a corporation, and is governed by two bailiffs, who are empowered to hold a court, and to judge and determine all actions under the value of 4 l. Here is a handſome church, built after a curious model, within which are many funeral monuments, that have braſs plates inſcribed with the names of conſiderable merchants, which is conſidered as a proof, that it was once a place of great trade. On Chapel-heath near the town are annual horſe-races. Chipping-Norton has a market on Wedneſdays, and ſeven fairs, held on the 7th of March, the 6th of May, the laſt Friday of the ſame month, the 18th of July, the 4th of September, the 8th of November, and the laſt Friday in November, for horſes, cows, ſheep, lambs, leather and cheeſe.

About three miles to the north of this town are Rollrick Stones, an ancient monument conſiſting of a circle of ſtones, between thirty and forty paces in diameter. The talleſt of theſe is about ſeven feet high; to the north of them is a ſingle ſtone, upwards of nine feet high; and about two furlongs to the eaſtward are five others, the higheſt of which is about nine feet in height. The common people here have a ridiculous tradition, that theſe ſtones were formerly men, who were metamorphoſed by a miracle; the higheſt of them all, they call the king, becauſe he was to have been king of England, as they pretend, if he had once ſeen Long Compton, a little town to the eaſtward. The five ſtanding by themſelves they

they maintain, were knights mounted on horſe-back, and the reſt, the army. It is uncertain by whom theſe ſtones were erected, or upon what occaſion. Some take them to be ſepulchral monuments. Dr. Charleton conjectures, that they were intended for a memorial of the advancement of Rollo, a Daniſh general, to the kingdom of England, by his army: but others, with greater probability, conſider them as the remains of a temple of the Druids, like ſome other circles of the ſame kind in Cornwall.

Now we are treating of theſe ancient monuments, it may be proper to obſerve, that there are other ſtones near the barrow at Stanton-Harcourt, called the Devil's Coits, which might be ſuppoſed to be an appendage to the former, were they not at too great a diſtance. They are about eight feet high and ſeven broad at the baſe; but upon what account they were erected is uncertain. There is alſo a ſtone about half a mile ſouth-weſt of Enſton-church, which tapers from a broad bottom; and by it lie ſtones of a ſmaller ſize. There is likewiſe another near the road between Burford and Chipping-Norton, probably erected for the ſame purpoſe as the two former; and Dr. Plot ſuppoſes, that theſe ſingle ſtones were deities worſhipped by the ancient Britons.

About four miles to the weſt of the Rollrick Stones are four ſhire ſtones, contiguous to each other, and each upon the boundary of the county in which it ſtands; the ſeveral counties of Oxfordſhire, Warwickſhire, Worceſterſhire, and Gloceſterſhire meeting in this ſpot.

Four miles to the north of Chipping-Norton is HOOK-NORTON, vulgarly called HOGS NORTON, a village twenty miles north by weſt of Oxford. It was thought to have been anciently a royal ſeat, and is remarkable for a great victory obtained

obtained here by the Danes over the Engliſh, about the year 914, and it is probable that the barrows in its neighbourhood were caſt up at that time. Camden ſays, that the inhabitants were formerly ſuch clowns and churls, that to be born at Hogs-Norton became a proverb to denote rudeneſs and ill-breeding. This village has two fairs, held on the 29th of June, and the 28th of November, for horſes and cows.

At COLD NORTON, in this neighbourhood, William Fitz-Allen, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Second, built an hoſpital or priory of the order of St. Auguſtine, dedicated to St. Mary, St. John the Evangeliſt, and St. Giles, which was diſſolved in the eleventh year of king Henry the Seventh.

At BRUERN, a village four miles ſouth-weſt of Chipping-Norton, was an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, founded by Nicholas Baſſet, in the year 1147. It had ſeveral other benefactors, whoſe gifts were confirmed to the monks by king John. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the diſſolution its revenues were valued by Dugdale at 134 l. a year.

Nine miles to the north-eaſt of Hook-Norton is BANBURY, which is ſeated on the river Cherwell, 77 miles north-weſt of London, 75 eaſt-north-eaſt of Briſtol, and 17 north-weſt of Buckingham. This is a very ancient town, and ſoon after the conqueſt, it was ſtrengthened with a caſtle, built by Alexander, then biſhop of Lincoln. It was made a borough in the firſt year of queen Mary, by whoſe charter it was governed by a bailiff, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgeſſes; but in the reign of king James I. it was made a mayor town with twelve aldermen and ſix capital burgeſſes; and it had a new charter from king George I. in the year 1718, by which it is now governed by a mayor, a high ſteward, a recorder, ſix capital burgeſſes, thirty

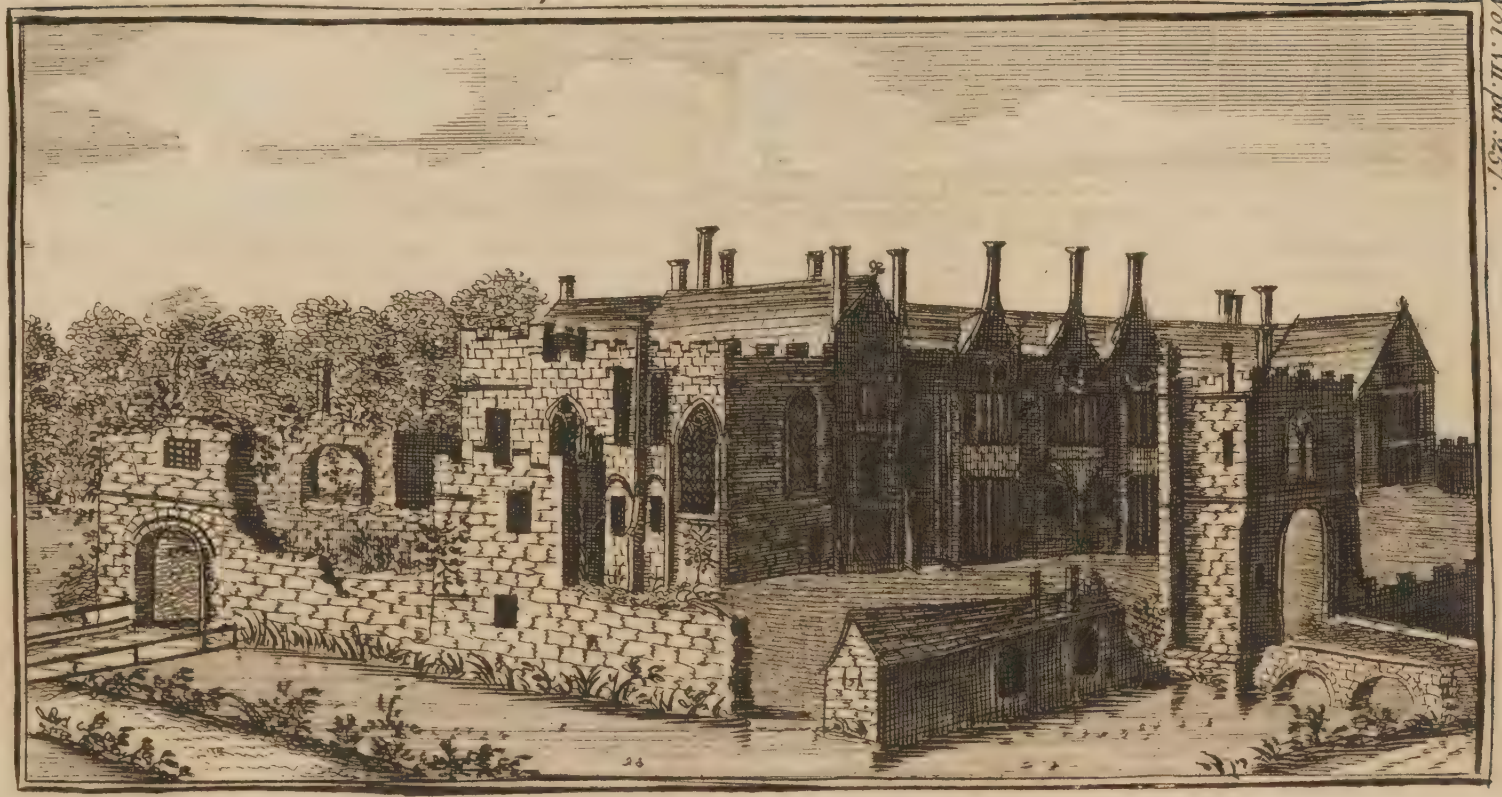
thirty aſſiſtants, a town-clerk, and a ſerjeant at mace. The town is pretty large, and its ſituation very pleaſant and commodious, in the midſt of rich meadows, whence the inhabitants make excellent cheeſe. It has a handſome church and two meeting-houſes, a free-ſchool, a work-houſe, and two charity-ſchools for teaching and cloathing poor children, one for thirty boys, and the other for twenty girls. This town is famous for a particular kind of cakes. In the civil wars a garriſon was placed here, or rather in the caſtle, by the parliament. It was going to be beſieged by the king, when hearing that the earl of Eſſex was at Keynton near Edgehill, he reſolved to go and attack him. The battle was fought the next day, but though the victory was doubtful, the king ſoon after took Banbury caſtle, in which were eight hundred foot and a troop of horſe, half of whom took arms under his banner, and from thence he marched to Oxford. The town has a market on Thurſdays, and eight fairs, held on the Thurſday after January 17, for horſes, cows and ſheep; on the firſt Thurſday in Lent, for horſes, cows, ſheep and fiſh; on Aſcenſion-Day, Corpus-Chriſti, June 13, and Auguſt 12, for horſes, cows and ſheep; on the Thurſday after October 10, for hogs, cheeſe and hiring ſervants, and on the 29th of October, for cheeſe, hops and cattle.

In or near the town of Banbury there was an hoſpital before the reign of king John, conſiſting of a prior or maſter, dedicated to St. John, and ſeveral leprous brethren and ſiſters, whoſe revenues at the diſſolution were valued at 15 l. 1 s. 10 d. a year. Here is alſo ſaid to have been a college dedicated to St. Mary, which had a revenue, valued at the ſuppreſſion at 48 l. 6 s. per annum.

Near two miles to the ſouth-weſt of Banbury is BROUGHTON, a village in which is a caſtle, that

was

The North East View of Broughton Caſtle, *in the County of* Oxford.



was the manor-houſe belonging to the eſtate of Sir William Wickham, Knt. who gave it in dower, with his daughter Margaret, to Sir William Fiennes, or Fines, lord Say and Sele. He was heir to Sir Thomas Fines, baron Say and Sele, and lord high treaſurer of England, who was cruelly beheaded by a rebellious rabble in the reign of king Henry the Sixth. It continued the ſeat of this family for three hundred years, and afterwards, in the firſt year of king James the Firſt, the ſtile and title of baron Say and Sele was confirmed and recognized to Sir Richard Fines, and his heirs. This eſtate was lately in the poſſeſſion of colonel Twiſſelden. This caſtle is in a very rural ſituation, and is pretty entire, though the outer walls are much decayed. Of this ſtructure we have, for the ſake of the curious reader, given an engraved view.

At WROXTON, a village three miles north-weſt of Banbury, was a priory of Auguſtine canons, founded by Michael Belet, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, for the health of the ſouls of Richard the Firſt, and king John, as alſo for his own ſoul, and thoſe of his family. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the ſuppreſſion had ten religious, whoſe annual revenues amounted to 78l. 14s. 3d.

Five miles to the north-eaſt of Wroxton, and four miles to the north of Banbury, is CLEYDON, the moſt northern village in the county, noted for a ſmall ſpring that riſes in the ſtreet, on the ſouth ſide of the village, and continues running all the year, but moſt plentifully in the drieſt weather. Here are likewiſe found the pyritae aureae, or the gold fire-ſtone, and the yellow aſteria, or ſtar-ſtone. A little to the north-weſt of this village are three ſhire-ſtones ſtanding near each other; one

one in Oxfordſhire, the other in Northamptonſhire, and the third in Warwickſhire.

At CLATTERCOTE, a village near Cleydon, was a priory of Gilbertine monks, founded in the reign of king John, and dedicated to St. Leonard. Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, gave to this houſe, at his deceaſe, the patronage of the church of Rothley in Warwickſhire. At the ſuppreſſion it had a prior, and four canons; and according to Dugdale was endowed with 34 l. 19 s. 11 d. a year. It is at preſent a large, but not a lofty ſtructure, in the poſſeſſion of the family of the Cartwrights, who have converted it into a dwelling-houſe.

We ſhall now return to Banbury, from whence a road extends ſix miles ſouth to DEDDINGTON, which is ſituated ſixty-two miles north-weſt of London, and had anciently a corporation. It ſent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward the Firſt and Third, but never ſince; however, it is ſtill a pretty large place, and had formerly a caſtle. Near it is a medicinal ſpring, of which we have taken notice in deſcribing the mineral waters of this county. It is governed by a bailiff, and has a charity-ſchool for ſixteen boys, and as many girls, with a market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, held on the 10th of Auguſt, for horſes and cows; and on the 22d of November, for horſes, cows and ſwine.

An ancient cuſtom uſed by young men at marriages, was continued in the pariſh of Deddington, when Dr. Plot wrote his natural hiſtory of the county. The bridegroom ſet up a poſt perpendicular to the horizon, and placed acroſs the top of it a ſlender piece of timber, moveable upon a ſpindle. At one end of this moveable piece was faſtened a board, and at the other a bag of ſand. The young men who attended the bride and bride-

groom,

groom, being mounted on horſeback, with each a ſtaff in his hand, in the manner of a lance, ran at the board, as knights formerly did at each other in tournaments; and he that firſt broke the board with his ſtaff, in his career, received ſome honorary prize: but this prize could not be obtained without ſome danger to the adventurer; for as the croſs piece of timber, to one end of which the board was faſtened, turned very freely upon its axis, a ſmart blow upon the board brought the bag of ſand, which hung at the other end, round with proportionable violence, from which the rider generally received a ſmart ſtroke upon his back, neck, or head, and was ſometimes unhorſed, to the great diverſion of the ſpectators.

Sir Thomas Pope, founder of Trinity college in Oxford, was born at this town in the year 1508. He received the firſt rudiments of learning at the free-ſchool of Banbury in this county, and afterwards at Eton college; but whether he ever ſtudied in either of our univerſities is uncertain. So early as the twenty-eighth year of his age he obtained the treaſurerſhip of the court of augmentations, and was ſoon after appointed one of the viſitors for the diſſolution of religious houſes; and in theſe two offices, though he behaved with great integrity, he yet found means to amaſs a large fortune. This he afterwards, viz. in 1554, very generouſly expended in founding Trinity-college in Oxford, and endowing it with a competent revenue for the maintenance of one preſident, twelve fellows, and twelve ſcholars; which number has never, from that time to this, been either encreaſed or diminiſhed. He died at his Houſe in Clerkenwell, London, on the twenty-ninth day of January, 1558, and was buried in the church of St. Stephen's Walbrook.

About

About three miles to the northward of Deddington is MILTON, a village which had a priory of Black friars, that was a cell to the monaſtery of Abingdon in Berkſhire.

Beſides the great men already mentioned, this county has produced many others, among whom are the following:

Michael Drayton, a renowned poet in the end of the ſixteenth and beginning of the ſeventeenth century, was born, as is ſuppoſed, in 1563, at Harſhull in this county, and educated either at Oxford or Cambridge. His love of poetry, it is ſaid, diſcovered itſelf very early; for even in the tenth year of his age, he expreſſed, we are told, an extreme anxiety to know, *what ſtrange kind of creatures theſe poets were*; and deſired his tutor, that, if he could, he would make him, of all things, a poet. At what time, however, he began to diſtinguiſh himſelf by his poetical compoſitions is difficult to determine: certain it is, that, in 1593, he publiſhed a collection of his paſtorals; and before the year 1598 his *Barons Wars*, his *England's Heroical Epiſtles*, his *Downfall of Robert of Normandy*, his *Matilda*, and his *Gaveſton*, made their appearance. Upon the acceſſion of king James the Firſt, he wrote a congratulatory poem to that prince; though he ſeems afterwards to have been very little ſatisfied with the encouragement given by his majeſty to the votaries of Apollo; who, he plainly inſinuates, were now much leſs reſpected than during the *Muſe-nurſing Maiden-reign*, as he terms it, of queen Elizabeth. In 1626 we find him ſtiled, before a copy of his own verſes, *Poet-Laureat*; an appellation, which appears to have been originally given to all eminent poets, and was not confined, as it is at preſent, to his majeſty's ſervant, known by

by that title. Beſides the works above-mentioned, he wrote *the Battle of Agincourt*; *the Miſeries of queen Margaret*, *Nymphidia*, or *the Court of the Fairies*; *the Shepherd's Serena*, &c. and *Poly-Olbion*, his moſt noted performance. He died in 1631, and was buried in Weſtminſter-abbey.

Dudley Carleton, a younger ſon of Anthony Carleton of Baldwin-Brightwell in Oxfordſhire, Eſq; was born at that place on the 10th of March, 1573. After finiſhing his ſtudies at Oxford, he came up to court, where he ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his political abilities. He acted as ambaſſador, firſt at Venice, then at the Hague, and afterwards at Paris; in all which places he acquitted himſelf with uncommon prudence. In 1626, he was created, by king Charles the Firſt, baron Carleton of Imbercourt in Surrey; and, about two years after, was advanced to the title of viſcount Dorcheſter. He died the 15th of February, 1632, and was interred in Weſtminſter-abbey. He publiſhed ſeveral tracts, all of the political kind.

Herbert Croft, an eminent divine, and a venerable prelate of the church of England, in the ſeventeenth century, was the third ſon of Sir Herbert Croft, and born at Great Milton in Oxfordſhire, October the 18th, 1603. He ſtudied for ſome time at Chriſt-Church in Oxford; but his father's embracing the Roman Catholic religion, and becoming a lay brother in the Benedictine monaſtery of Douay, this youth was carried over thither, and committed to the care of the Jeſuits of St. Omer's, who found means to convert him to the church of Rome. Returning, however, to his native country, a little before his father's death, he was happily reconciled to the church of England, took his degrees in the univerſity of Oxford, entered into orders, and obtained the

rectory

rectory of Harding in Oxfordshire. During the civil wars he adhered to his sovereign with such inviolable fidelity, that his life was, by that means, more than once brought into danger. By the successive deaths of his elder brothers, he became possessed of the estate of the family; and, in about a twelvemonth after the restoration, was promoted to the bishopric of Hereford. His majesty would afterwards have given him a richer see; but so great was his moderation, that he refused to accept it. He expired in his palace at Hereford, May the 18th, 1691, and was interred in the cathedral of that city. He wrote a book, intitled, *the Naked Truth*, which made a good deal of noise. The design of it was to reconcile protestants of every denomination. He likewise published several sermons and other treatises.

John Wilmot, the wicked and witty earl of Rochester, was the son of Henry, earl of Rochester, and born in April, 1648, at Ditchley near Woodstock in this county. Having finished his education at Wadham-college, Oxford, he travelled into France and Italy; and returning to England, the court of which was at that time extremely licentious and corrupt, he immediately became a debauchee in his manners, and an atheist in his principles. He served, it is said, in two naval expeditions, and acquitted himself in both with a considerable degree of spirit; but he afterwards forfeited his character for courage in a quarrel which he had with the earl of Mulgrave. His whole life, it is affirmed, was one continued scene of riot and debauchery. He told Dr. Burnet, that, for five years together, he was perpetually drunk; not, indeed, all that time, under the visible effects of liquor, but never so cool as to be master of himself. The love of pleasure, and a propensity to mirth, seem to have been his two ruling passions.

The

The one immerſed him in great ſenſuality; the other led him to many odd frolics and adventures. Once, it is ſaid, he diſguiſed himſelf ſo, that his neareſt friends could not have known him, and ſetting up in Tower-ſtreet for an Italian mountebank, he there practiſed phyſic for ſeveral weeks. At other times he would metamorphoſe himſelf into a porter or a beggar, in order to purſue ſome low amour, or for the like mean purpoſe. At length, by a conſtant indulgence in women and wine, and his irregular manner of living, he entirely wore out an excellent conſtitution, before he had completed his thirtieth year. He was attended on his death-bed by Dr. Burnet, who has given an account of his life; and who ſays, that he died a good chriſtian and a moſt ſincere penitent. He expired July the 26th, 1680, and was interred near his father in Spilſbury church in Oxfordſhire. His works are too well known. Mr. Walpole ſays, that they have more obſcenity than wit, more wit than poetry, more poetry than politeneſs.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

THIS county takes its name from Pembroke its principal town. It is ſeated on the ſouth-weſt extremity of Wales, and is bounded on all ſides by the ſea, except on the eaſt, where it joins to Caernarvonſhire and Cardiganſhire; it being waſhed on the ſouth by Briſtol channel, and on the weſt and north by St. George's channel, or the Iriſh ſea. It extends upwards of thirty miles in length, and above twenty-two in breadth, and is about a hundred and twenty miles in circumference.

The coaſt of this county projecting into the ſea, forms a great number of promontories and ſpacious bays, ſome of which are hardly to be equalled, for the advantages they are capable of procuring by navigation. There are alſo ſeveral iſlands on the coaſt. Pembrokeſhire affords many monuments of the ancient Britons, which will be hereafter mentioned, and likewiſe ſome ancient tumuli, or artificial mounts, in which urns have been buried. The moſt remarkable are thoſe called Krigu-Kemaes, or the barrows of Kemaes. One of theſe being opened, there were found in it five urns, which contained a conſiderable quantity of burnt bones and aſhes: the urns are very rough, and not curiouſly wrought, whence they might be ſuſpected not to be Roman; but it ſhould be remembered, that there might be unſkilful artiſts among that people as well as among others, eſpecially in ſuch a remote province. Another urn

was

was found in a barrow, in the parish of Melinu, and after that another on a mountain, not far from Kil Rhedyn.

A considerable tract of Pembrokeshire, consisting of the county, which lies west of Milford-Haven, and between that bay and St. George's channel, is called by the Welch Rhos, which signifies a green field. In this district a colony of Flemings, settled by the permission of Henry the First, at the time when the sea had broke through the dykes of their own country, and had done incredible damage. This district was, in Camden's time, called Little England, beyond Wales; and Giraldus, speaking of the Flemish settled here, says, they are a stout resolute nation, very offensive to the Welch by their frequent skirmishes; and observes, that they were much inured to the cloathing trade, and to merchandize, and ready to increase their stock by any labour and hazard, both by sea and land. The Fleming's way, or road, a work performed by them, may be still seen extended through a long tract of ground. The Welch, who were not well pleased with this colony, frequently attempted to drive them out, by ravaging and spoiling their borders, but without success. The annotator upon Camden informs us, that all Wales, with their united force, have several times invaded their country, but the Flemings maintained their ground, and Rhos is still inhabited by their descendants, who may still be distinguished by their speech and customs.

The principal rivers of Pembrokeshire are, the Teivy, the Clethy, and the Dougledye. The Teivy rises in Caermarthenshire, and running south-west, separates Cardiganshire from Caermarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, and falls into the Irish sea, by the most northern extremity of

this county; but this river waſhes only a ſmall part of Pembrokeſhire.

The Clethy riſes at the foot of a hill in this county, called Vrennybawr, ſome miles ſouth-eaſt of Newport, and running ſouth, falls into the mouth of the Dougledye, near its conflux with the bay of the ſea, called by the Engliſh Milford-Haven, but by the Welch Aber-dau Gledheu, or the Haven with two ſwords.

The name of Dougledye is a corruption of the original Britiſh words Dau Gledheu, or two ſwords. This river riſes to the ſouth of Fiſgard, and running ſouth-eaſt and ſouth, paſſes by Haverford-Weſt, and falls with the river Clethy into Milford Haven.

The leſs conſiderable rivers are the Gwaine, the Biran, the Kiog, the Nevern, and the Radford.

The air of Pembrokeſhire is eſteemed very ſalubrious, and the ſoil is fertile, for here are but few mountains, and theſe, which are chiefly ſeated in the north-eaſt part of the county, yield good paſture for cattle and ſheep: towards the ſea-coaſt, the land extends into rich meadows and corn-fields. The country abounds with horned cattle, ſheep, goats, and wild fowl of various kinds, ſome of which are ſeldom ſeen in any other part of Britain. Theſe are migratory ſea-birds, that breed in the iſle of Ramſey, and the adjoining rocks, called the Biſhop and his Clerks. Thither yearly reſort, about the beginning of April, ſuch flocks of birds of ſeveral ſorts, as appear incredible to thoſe who have not ſeen them. They come to theſe rocks in the night-time, and leave them alſo in the night; for in the evening the rocks ſhall be covered with them, and the next morning not a bird is to be ſeen. In the ſame manner not a ſingle bird ſhall appear in the evening, and the next morning,

morning, the rocks ſhall be covered with them. They alſo commonly make a viſit about Chriſtmas, ſtaying a week or longer, and then take their leave till breeding-time. Among theſe birds are the eligug, razor-bill, puffing and harry-bird. The eligug lays but one egg, which, as well as thoſe of the puffin and razor-bill, is as big as a duck's, but longer and ſmaller at one end. She never leaves this egg till it is hatched, nor then till the young one is able to follow her, and ſhe is all this time fed by the male. This and the razor-bill, breed upon the bare rocks, without any ſort of neſt. The puffin and the harry-bird breed in holes, and commonly in thoſe of the rabbits; but ſometimes they dig holes with their beaks. The harry-birds are never ſeen on land, but when taken. All the four kinds cannot raiſe themſelves to fly away when they are on land, and therefore they creep or waddle to the clifts, and throwing themſelves off, take wing. The eligug is the ſame bird, which they call in Cornwall a Kiddaw, and in Yorkſhire a Skout. The razor-bill is the merre of Cornwall. The puffin is the artick duck of Cluſius, and the harry-bird the ſhire-water of Sir Thomas Brown.

The ſea-ſand in ſeveral parts on the coaſt of this county, having been formerly waſhed away at different times, by a long continuance of ſtormy weather, diſcovered very large trees, ſome of which having been felled, lay at full length, while the trunks of others ſtood upright in the places where they grew. Theſe trees lay ſo thick, and in ſuch numbers, that the ſhore, for a conſiderable ſpace, appeared like a foreſt cut down. On theſe trees were as plainly the marks of the axe, as if they had been but juſt felled; but the wood was become as hard and black as ebony. Hence it appears, that great part of the coaſt of this county was ancient-

ly a foreſt, upon which the ſea broke in, and at length covered it with ſand.

We find no account of the vegetable productions that grow wild in this county, except that near St. David's, they gather in the ſpring a kind of alga, or ſea-weed, of which they make a ſort of food, called in Welch Lhavan, and in Engliſh Black Butter. Having waſhed it clean, they lay it to ſweat between two flat ſtones, then ſhred it ſmall, and knead it well, like dough for bread, and afterwards make it up into great balls or rolls, which ſome eat raw, and others fry with oat-meal and butter. It is accounted excellent againſt all diſtempers of the liver and ſpleen, and ſome affirm, that they have been relieved by it in the ſharpeſt fits of the ſtone.

This county is divided into ſeven hundreds, and contains the city of St. David's, and the ſeven following market towns, Fiſgard, Haverford-weſt, Killgarring, Newport, Pembroke, Tenby, and Whiſton. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and the dioceſe of St. David's, and has a hundred and forty-five pariſhes. It ſends three members to parliament, one knight of the ſhire for the county, one repreſentative for the borough of Pembroke, and another for the borough of Haverford-weſt.

On entering the ſouth-eaſt part of this county from Caermarthenſhire, a road extends ſouth-weſt by ſouth to TENBY, or TENBIGH, which is ſeated on the ſea-ſhore, and has a good harbour for ſhips, at the diſtance of two hundred and eight miles from London. It was formerly fortified with ſtrong walls and a caſtle, but they are now both decayed. The ruins of the caſtle are ſtill remaining, and within its view are the iſles of Caldy and Lundy, which are ſeated to the ſouth-weſt. This

ſtructure

ſtructure was well ſituated for the defence of the town and the bay. It was built by the Normans, and was taken by Rhys ap Gruffiydh, prince of South Wales, in the year 1152, after which it was frequently contended for by the princes of Wales. The town is governed by a mayor and bailiff, and, except Pembroke, is the moſt agreeable of all the towns on the ſea-coaſt of South-Wales. Beſides its having a good road for ſhipping, it has a commodious quay, a large fiſhery of herrings, and carries on a conſiderable trade to Ireland, particularly in coals; for the inhabitants ſhip off yearly from hence ſeven or eight thouſand chaldrons of coal and culm, and the coaſt of the bay abounds in iron ſtone. This town was anciently noted for a fiſhery on a bank called Will's Mark, in Briſtol channel; but upon the inhabitants growing rich, they forgot the old marks of their fiſhing-bank, and thus loſt the fiſhery; and though ſome attempts have been made to find it again, it has been without effect. It has a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and five fairs, held on Whitſun-Tueſday, the 4th of May, the 20th of July, the 20th of October, and the 4th of December, for horned-cattle, horſes and ſheep. Tenby had an hoſpital or lazer-houſe, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and endowed at the ſuppreſſion with 2 l. a year.

The iſland of CALDEY, called by the Welch Iniſpir, is pretty near the ſhore, and the north part of it is about two miles ſouth-weſt of Tenby. On this little iſland the mother of Robert Fitz-Martin founded a priory, ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Dogmael, which was valued at the diſſolution at 5 l. 10 s. 11 d. a year.

Over againſt this iſland, and at a greater diſtance from the ſhore, is the Iſle of LUNDY. This, ſays Dr. Gibſon, is the larger of the two,

and yet not much above two miles long and a mile broad. It is encompaſſed with rocks, and has only one entrance, which is ſo ſtrait, that two men can hardly walk a-breaſt. It is full of good paſture, and has a great number of rabbits. Pigeons and ſterlings flock thither in prodigious numbers to breed.

Four miles to the weſtward of Tenby is MANNORBEER caſtle, which is ſeated on Briſtol channel, and is generally ſuppoſed to have been built by the Normans, in the reign of William Rufus. It was held by the crown from the time of king Henry the Firſt, to the reign of king James the Firſt, who, by a grant, which was afterwards confirmed by his ſon king Charles the Firſt, gave it to the Bowens of Trelloyne, from whom it deſcended by marriage to the Phillipſes. Of this caſtle we have given an engraved view.

Six miles weſt of Tenby is CAREW caſtle, which formerly belonged to the barony of Carew, which, with this caſtle, was given as a portion in marriage with Neſta, the daughter of Rees, prince of South Wales, to Gerald de Carno, whoſe deſcendants, by the name of Carew, enjoyed it for ſeveral generations, till Sir Edmund Carew mortgaged it to Sir Rice ap Thomas, and afterwards it was forfeited to Henry the Eighth, by whom the barony and caſtle were granted by leaſes for terms of year, to Sir John Perrot, and ſeveral others. The remainder of theſe terms were purchaſed by Sir John Carew, kinſman and heir of the above Sir Edmund, to whom king Charles the Firſt reſtored the fee-ſimple and inheritance, and from whom it deſcended to its preſent poſſeſſor of the ſame family. It ſtands near an arm of Milford-Haven, and moſt of the walls being pretty entire, the engraved view we have given of it, will ſhew that it was not only a very ſtrong, but a beautiful

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The South East View of Manorbeer Castle, *in the County of* Pembroke.

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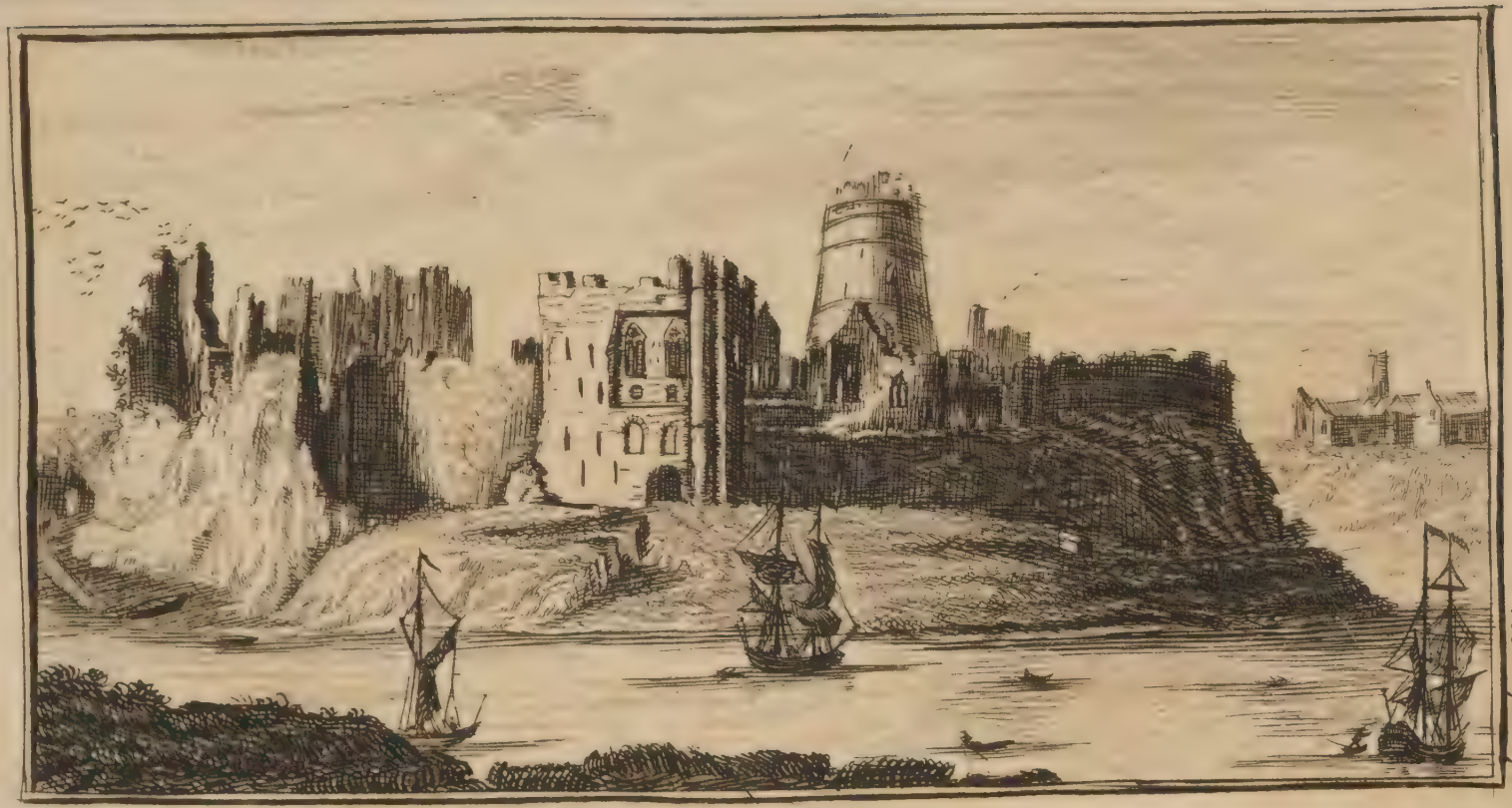
The South East View of Carew Caſtle, *in the County of* Pembroke.

a beautiful caſtle, conſidering the time in which it was built.

Nine miles to the weſt of Tenby is PEMBROKE, which ſtands upon a creek of Milford-Haven, in the moſt pleaſant part of all Wales, two hundred and ſeventeen miles weſt by north of London. It derives its name from the ancient Britiſh word Penvro, a cape or promontory. It is the county town, and has two handſome bridges, over two ſmall rivers that run into a creek, which forms the weſt ſide of the promontory. It is well inhabited, and has many good houſes, and three pariſh churches, St. Michael's, St. Mary's, and St. Nicholas's. Here is alſo a cuſtom-houſe. Among the inhabitants are ſeveral merchants, who, favoured by the ſituation of the place, employ near two hundred ſail on their own account, ſo that, next to Caermarthen, it is the largeſt and richeſt town in South-Wales. It has one long ſtrait ſtreet, upon a narrow part of a rock, and the above-mentioned rivers ſeem to be two arms of Milford-Haven, which ebbs and flows cloſe to the town. It is governed by a mayor, bailiff, and burgeſſes, and was anciently fortified with walls and a magnificent caſtle, firſt built by Arnulph de Montgomery, brother to the earl of Shrewſbury, in the reign of king Henry the Firſt. It is ſeated on a beautiful rock, at the weſt end of the town. In this rock under the chapel is a vault called Wogan, remarkable for a very fine echo: this is ſuppoſed to have been a ſtore room for the garriſon, there being a ſtair-caſe leading into it from the caſtle. This ſtructure being burnt a few years after it was erected, it was rebuilt by Owen, the ſon of Cadogan of Blethim. It is remarkable for being the birth-place of Henry the Seventh, and for the brave defence made by the garriſon for king Charles the Firſt. For the

ſatisfaction of the curious reader, we have given a view of this ſtructure in its preſent ſtate. The church of St. Nicholas at the weſt end of the town, beyond the caſtle, is no more than a part of the church formerly belonging to a Benedictine priory, called St. Nicholas of Monkton, which was founded in the year 1098, by Arnulph de Montgomery, earl of Pembroke, and given to the abbey of St. Martin of Sayes in Normandy. This being a cell to a foreign abbey was ſeized by king Edward the Third during his wars with France. King Henry the Third reſtored it. Afterwards it was ſeized again, and given by king Henry the Sixth to Humphry, duke of Glouceſter, who made it a cell to the abbey of St. Alban's. Pembroke has given the title of earl to the ſeveral noble families of Montgomery de Clare, Marſhal de Valence, and Haſting. John, duke of Bedford, and Humphry, duke of Glouceſter, both ſons of king Henry the Third, were earls of Pembroke. William de la Pole, duke of Suffolk, was marquis of this place. Jaſper of Hatfield, half brother to king Henry the Sixth, was earl of Pembroke, and after him two of the family of Herbert. Then Edward, prince of Wales, ſon to king Edward the Third. Anna Boleyn (afterwards king Henry the Eighth's queen) was marchioneſs of Pembroke. And laſtly, king Edward the Sixth conferred this earldom on the Herberts, who ſtill enjoy it. Near this town was an hoſpital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, which was valued at the ſuppreſſion at only 11 l. 6 s. 8 d. per annum. Pembroke ſends only one member to parliament, and has a good market on Saturdays, with four fairs, held on the 14th of May, Trinity-Monday, the 10th of July, and the 25th of September, for horned cattle, horſes, ſheep and cloth.

Near



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A View of Pembroke Caſtle.

Near Stackpoole Boſher, upon the ſea-coaſt, not far from Pembroke, is a pool of water called BOSHERSTON-Meer, ſo deep, that it could never be ſounded, yet before a ſtorm, it is ſaid to bubble, foam, and make a noiſe ſo loud as to be heard at ſeveral miles diſtance. The banks are of no great circumference at the top; but broader downwards, and at a conſiderable depth, is a great breach towards the ſea, which is about a furlong diſtant, and it is ſuppoſed to have a ſubterraneous communication with it.

MILFORD-HAVEN is univerſally allowed to be the beſt harbour in Great-Britain, and as ſafe and ſpacious as any in Europe. It has ſixteen deep and ſafe creeks, five bays, and thirteen roads, all diſtinguiſhed by their ſeveral names, in which it is ſaid, that a thouſand ſail of ſhips may ride in perfect ſecurity, and at a ſufficient diſtance from each other: nor is there any danger in ſailing in or out with the tide, either by day or by night, from whatever point the wind may happen to blow; and if a ſhip in diſtreſs comes in without either anchor or cable, ſhe may run aſhore on ſoft ooze, and there lie ſafe till ſhe is refitted. The ſpring-tide riſes in this harbour thirty-ſix feet; ſo that ſhips may at any time be laid aſhore. Dale harbour is a ready out-let for ſmall veſſels, where they may ride in two or three fathoms at low water. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, before the Spaniſh invaſion, two forts were begun at the entrance of Milford-Haven, one on each ſide, called Nangle, and Dale block-houſes, but they were not then finiſhed. The Stack-rock riſes here above water, lying near the middle of the entrance between Nangle and Dale. Penermouth is the opening of that branch of the haven, on which the town of Pembroke is ſeated, and where the cuſtom-houſe of Milford is kept. The breadth of

the entrance between rock and rock is but two hundred yards at high water, and a hundred and twelve at low water. There is a ridge of rocky ground that has the name of Carrs, which runs almoſt acroſs Milford-Haven, from Peter-church towards Llanſtadwell, where it renders the landing-place difficult to ſtrangers, from its not appearing at low-water. Nayland is the place where they bring woollen yarn from Ireland, and there ſalt is alſo refined and conveyed from thence over the whole country. Laurreny is the place where large ſhips take in coal and culm, which are brought in barges from Creſwell at low-water. Veins of coppor-ore have been obſerved in the ſea-cliffs, ſome of which of the grey and purple kind, are very rich; there are alſo ſome yellow and ſulphureous, but none of them were ever properly wrought. The great plenty of lime-ſtone about this haven, gives the inhabitants an opportunity of improving the ground, and rendering the land more fruitful than in the other parts of the county. The great excellency and utility of this harbour is, that in an hour's time a ſhip may be in or out of it, and in the way between the Land's-end and Ireland. As it lies near the mouth of the Severn, a ſhip, in eight or ten hours, may be over on the coaſt of Ireland, or off the Land's-end in the Engliſh-channel; and a veſſel may get out of this place to the weſt, much ſooner than from either Plymouth or Falmouth. This harbour has been greatly improved by new works at the expence of the government.

We ſhall now return back to the edge of the county where we firſt entered it; when returning weſt by north, we come to NARBERTH, a town ſeated on the eaſtern ſide of the county, ſix miles to the northward of Tenby, in the road to Haverford-Weſt. It is built on the top of a hill,

two

The South View of Narberth Castle, *in the County of* Pembroke.

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The South East View of Llehaiden Caſtle *in the County of* Pembroke

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two hundred and nine miles weſt by north of London, and has a market on Wedneſdays, and five fairs, held on the 21ſt of March, the 4th of June, the 5th of July, the 26th of September, and the 11th of December, for horned cattle, horſes and ſheep. This town had a caſtle, ſaid to have been built by Sir Andrew Perrot, whoſe anceſtor left Normandy with William the Conqueror. Of the remains of this ſtructure we have given a view.

Four miles to the north-weſt of Narberth is the caſtle of LLEHAIDEN, which is ſeated on an eminence, and was the principal ſeat of the biſhop of St. David's, who from this caſtle takes his barony. About the year 1514, Edward Vaughan, biſhop of St. David's, repaired it, and built a chapel in it; but in the year 1616, biſhop Richard Milbourn, procured a licence from the archbiſhop of Canterbury to demoliſh it; the lead and a great part of the other materials having been ſold by ſome of his predeceſſors. However, great part of the walls are ſtill ſtanding, and may continue for ages in their preſent condition; and of theſe we have given an engraved view.

Seven miles to the north-weſtward of Narberth is WHISTON, or WISTON, a town governed by a mayor and bailiffs, but is a mean place. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 8th of November, for horſes, horned cattle and ſheep.

HAVERFORD-WEST, called by the Welch Hwlfordh, is ſeated four miles and a half ſouth-weſt of Whiſton, and nine miles weſt of Narberth, on the ſide of a hill which forms part of the weſt bank of the river Dougledye, and is a neat, well built, populous place, governed by a mayor, a ſheriff, a town-clerk, two bailiffs, ſerjeants at mace, and other officers, and ſends one member to parliament. The town is a county of

itſelf, and the mayor is coroner, eſcheator, and clerk of the markets within its precincts. It was formerly fortified with a rampart and a caſtle, ſuppoſed to have been built by Gilbert, earl of Clare: this caſtle had an outer gate, with two portculliſes, and an inward gate: the walls were fortified with ſeveral towers, and it was one of thoſe poſſeſſed by the Flemings, when they firſt came into Dyvet, or Pembrokeſhire; but the fortifications were demoliſhed in the civil wars under Charles the Firſt. Here was alſo a priory of Black canons, founded by Robert de Haverford, who gave to it ſeveral churches and tythes in his barony of Haverford, all which king Edward the Third confirmed to them. About ſeventy years ago an effigy was dug up, which ſeemed to repreſent a biſhop, and is ſuppoſed to be that of David Cherbury, biſhop of Dromore in Ireland, and archdeacon of Brecknock, who, by his laſt will, dated the 9th of November, 1426, ordered that he ſhould be interred here, and left a legacy towards rebuilding the cloyſters of this priory. Of this priory, together with the above caſtle, we have given an engraved view. Without the town was a houſe of Black friars. The houſes are well built and well inhabited, and the people enjoy a good trade. Here the aſſizes are held, and the county-jail kept. The town enjoys ſeveral privileges, and has its own courts. There are three pariſh churches within the town, and one in the ſuburbs. St. Mary's church in the town is a very neat building, with a curious ſpire. Here is alſo a commodious quay for ſhips of burthen, a cuſtom-houſe, and a fine ſtone bridge over the Dougledye, with a good free-ſchool, a charity-ſchool for boys and girls, and an alms-houſe. It is a rich trading place, and the town and neighbourhood abound with gentry, who render it one of the po-

liteſt

The South East View of Haverford west Priory. *in the County of* Pembroke

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The North East View of Picton Castle, *in the County of* Pembroke.

liteſt places in Wales. It has a market on Tueſdays and Saturdays, for cattle and proviſions, and ſix fairs, held on May 12, June 12, July 18, September 4, September 24, and October 18, for horned cattle, horſes, ſheep, &c.

At SLEBECH, north-eaſt of Haverford-Weſt, Wize, and Walter his ſon, founded a preceptory of the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, before the year 1301, which at the diſſolution was endowed with the annual revenue of 211 l. 9 s. 11 d.

Three miles ſouth-eaſt of Haverford-Weſt is PICTON-caſtle, which is very ancient, and was built in the time of William Rufus, by William de Picton, a Norman knight. For want of iſſue male, it deſcended from the Pictons to the Wogans, then to the Dones, and laſtly to the Philipſes of Kylſant, in whoſe family it continued eight generations, and was lately the manſion-houſe of Eraſmus Philips, Bart. It is remarkable that this caſtle continues entire, and has been always inhabited, though moſt of the other caſtles in Wales have been demoliſhed. It was garriſoned by Sir Richard Philips, for king Charles the Firſt in the civil wars, and held out a long ſiege. It is a very ſtrong, handſome ſtructure, conſidering the time in which it was erected, as appears from the engraved view we have given of it.

To the ſouth of Haverford-Weſt, and on the north ſide of Milford-Haven, is PYLLOS, where Adam de Rupe, about the year 1200, founded a priory, and placed in it monks of the order of Tyron; but in time theſe monks forſook the ſtrict diſcipline enjoined them by their founder, and became common Benedictines. This houſe was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Budoc, and is ſaid to have been ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Dogmael. At the diſſolution its annual revenues amounted to 67 l. 15 s. 3 d.

From

From hence a road extends ſouth-weſt and weſt fourteen miles to ST. DAVID'S, which has the title of a city, on account of its being the ſee of a biſhop, though it is only a poor village. It is ſituated about a mile from the extremity of a large naked promontory, which projects with a very high front into the Iriſh ſea. It is ſuppoſed to have been a Roman town, and the Octapitarum mentioned by Ptolemy, after which it obtained the name of Menevia. Here St. Patrick is ſaid to have founded a monaſtery, and to have dedicated it to St. Andrew, about the year 470. Hither St. David tranſlated the archbiſhopric of Wales from Caerleon, about the year 577, and here he built a cathedral, and became its firſt archbiſhop. After his death it was dedicated to him, and the city alſo took his name. This ſee enjoyed the archbiſhopric till about the year 930, when archbiſhop Sampſon withdrawing from his province on account of a peſtilential diſeaſe which then raged here, carried the pall with him to Dole in Brittainy: yet after this the archbiſhops of this ſee are ſaid to have conſecrated the Welch biſhops, and to have been primates of Wales, till the reign of king Henry the Firſt, when Bernard, a Norman being made archbiſhop, profeſſed ſubjection to the archbiſhop of Canterbury, as his metropolitan. At the ſuppreſſion this biſhopric was valued at 426 l. 2 s. 1 d. per annum. The cathedral and palace were ſeated within a mile of the ſea, and within view (in clear weather) of the Iriſh hills. They are incloſed with a wall of ſtone one thouſand one hundred yards in circumference. In this cloſe ſtand the cathedral, the palace, and the houſes of the dignitaries, ſome of which are habitable, and others in ruins. The entrance is by four gates, the principal of which leads from the town. In this gate the biſhops formerly held their courts. The

old

The South East View of St Davids Church *&* Palace *in the County of* Pembroke

1. Pallace. 2. College

old church was taken down, and the preſent cathedral (dedicated to St. Andrew and St. David) was begun by biſhop Peter de Lein in 1180, and compleated by his ſucceſſors. It is a venerable ſtructure three hundred feet in length; the diſtance from the weſt door to the entrance of the choir is a hundred and twenty-four feet; from the choir to the altar is eighty feet; the breadth of the body of the ſide iſles is ſeventy-two feet, that of the weſt front is ſeventy-ſix feet, and the length of the great croſs-iſle, from north to ſouth, is a hundred and thirty feet; the height of the middle iſle to the vaulting is fifty-four feet; and over the middle of the church is a tower a hundred and twenty-ſeven feet high. The weſt end of the church is in tolerable repair, but the eaſt end has ſuffered greatly from time and neglect, the roof having fallen in. The biſhop's palace is now a large magnificent piece of ruins, of which only the walls are ſtanding. It was built by biſhop Henry Gower, about the year 1335, and had a hall eighty-eight feet long and thirty broad, with another fifty-eight feet long and twenty-three broad, and the apartments were proportionably grand and noble. Of the remains of this church and palace, we have given a view for the ſatisfaction of the curious reader. There is no dean belonging to the cathedral of this place; but here is a precentor, who has the power of a dean, a chancellor, a treaſurer, four archdeacons, nineteen prebendaries, eight vicars choral, four choriſters, and other officers.

In 1369, John, duke of Lancaſter, Blanch his wife, and Adam Hutton, biſhop of St. David's, founded here a college for a maſter and ſeven prieſts, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and endowed, at the diſſolution, with the annual revenue of 111 l. 16 s. 4 d.

In

In ſhort, St. David's was anciently a conſiderable city, encompaſſed with walls, which are now demoliſhed; but from its wild and bleak ſituation, with the barrenneſs of the country near it, has become ſo deſerted, that it has neither market nor fair. In the ſea, before this promontory, are five or ſix rocks, called the Biſhop and his Clerks, which we have already mentioned, as being covered with wild fowl, and are much dreaded by ſailors, many ſhips having been wrecked upon them. Near St. David's head is alſo an iſland, called Ramſay iſland, which, on the eaſt, ſhoots out in a high promontory, but on the weſt is level and fruitful, and is ſaid to have been inhabited by ſo many ſaints, that no leſs than twenty thouſand are ſaid, in ancient hiſtories, to lie interred there. Though now, the paſſage between South-Britain and Ireland is at Holyhead, in the iſle of Angleſey, it was formerly at this place, from which the paſſage between the two kingdoms is both ſhorter, ſafer, and more convenient, for thoſe who have buſineſs to tranſact on the coaſt.

On a cliff which hangs over the ſea, about the diſtance of half a mile from St. David's, is a ſtone ſo large, that it is ſaid a hundred oxen could not drag it away; it is called by the Welch Y Maen Sigl, or the Rocking-ſtone, from its having been mounted upon other ſtones about three feet high, and placed in ſuch an equilibrium, that a man might move it with one finger from ſide to ſide; but the parliament ſoldiers, in the civil wars under Charles the Firſt, conſidering this ſtone as an object of ſuperſtition, deſtroyed its equipoiſe, and rendered it immoveable.

At a place anciently called VALLIS ROSINA, ſuppoſed to be ſituated near Menevia, St. David, ſoon after the year 519, built a monaſtery for monks,

monks, whom he required to ſupport themſelves with the labour of their hands, and yet to ſpend a conſiderable part of every day in prayer, reading and meditation.

From St. David's a road extends fifteen miles north-eaſt to FISCARD, or FISHCARD, which is ſeated on a ſteep cliff on the ſea-ſhore, in the road from St. David's to Cardigan, and derives its Engliſh name from a fiſhery, probably of herrings, at this place; but it is called by the Welch Aber Gwaine, or the mouth of the Gwaine, from its ſituation at the influx of the river Gwaine, into the ſea, which here forms a ſpacious bay. It is governed by a mayor, a bailiff, and other officers; and here veſſels may lie ſafely in five or ſix fathoms water, if they have good tackle, for the ground is a ſtrong blue clay and ſand; but when the winds are northerly, they muſt lie cloſe in ſhore. The inhabitants have a good trade in herrings, and annually cure, between Fiſcard and Newport, above a thouſand barrels of them. The adjacent country abounds in corn, and the town has a market on Fridays, but no fairs.

Nine miles to the eaſtward of Fiſcard is NEWPORT, which is called in Welch Trevdraeth, which ſignifies the town in the ſand. It ſtands at the mouth of the river Nevern, which falls into the bay of Newport, and was built by Martin de Tours, whoſe poſterity made it a corporation, governed by a portrieve and bailiff. They alſo built a caſtle above the town, which was their chief ſeat, in the year 1215. It was afterwards in a manner demoliſhed by Llewellyn, prince of South Wales, it being then poſſeſſed by the Flemings. In proceſs of time it came to the family of the Owens, who alſo became lords of Kemaes; and for want of iſſue male fell to John Langhorne,

horne, of Laurithan, Gent. and to Mrs. Lloyd, of Brownwith, who lately had it in their poſſeſſion. Of this caſtle, which is now ruinous, we have given an engraved view. The town is large, but the buildings are mean; it has, however, a handſome church, and the inhabitants have ſome trade to Ireland: notwithſtanding which it is a poor place, chiefly ſupported by paſſengers to and from Ireland. In the bay is a quarry of ſlates, which ſupplies all this coaſt, and not far from thence is a vein of allum earth. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 27th of June, for cattle, horſes, and ſheep. In this town was anciently a houſe of Auguſtine friars.

At NEVERN, near Newport, is a rude ſtone in the church-yard, pitched upon one end, and about ſix feet high, on which is an inſcription, ſuppoſed to refer to a Roman ſoldier, and is thus read, VITELLIANI EMERITI. On the ſouth ſide of the ſame church-yard, is erected a very handſome pillar, like the ſhaft or upright beam of a croſs. It is of a quadrangular form, about two feet broad, eighteen inches thick, and thirteen feet high, neatly carved on all ſides with certain endleſs knots, about thirty-one in number, and all of them different. The top is covered with a croſs ſtone, below which is a croſs carved on the eaſt and weſt ſides; and about the middle are ſome uncouth letters, which are perhaps the initial letters of the names of thoſe perſons who erected the croſs.

Near PENTERE EVAU, in Nevern pariſh, are ſeveral rude ſtones, placed upon one end in a circular order. In the midſt of the circle, which is a hundred and fifty feet in circumference, is a rude ſtone of a prodigious ſize, it being about eighteen feet in height, nine in breadth, and three feet

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The South View of Newport Caſtle, *in the County of* Pembroke.

feet thick, ſupported on three ſtone pillars about eight feet high, with five others, which ſeem at preſent of no uſe, they being too ſhort to bear any part of the weight of the top ſtone. A part of this ſtone, above ten feet long and five broad, is broken off, and ſeems to be more than twenty oxen can draw. The ground beneath is paved with flag-ſtones. This is called by the Welch Y Gromlech, which ſignifies bowing to a ſtone; whence it has been concluded, that this was a place of worſhip, as were all the other circular ſtones of the ſame kind in Great-Britain and Ireland. This has been more particularly proved, with reſpect to the ſtone circles in Cornwall. It is ſufficient to add, that Dr. James Garden, formerly profeſſor of divinity at Aberdeen, has taken notice of theſe circular monuments in Scotland, and has rendered it exceeding probable, that they were the temples of the Druids. We have given a particular deſcription of ſeveral of theſe ancient monuments; and it muſt be allowed, that they are aſtoniſhing proofs of the ſkill of the ancient Britons, in being able to raiſe ſtones of ſuch immenſe weight, and to fix them with ſuch niceneſs, and ſo exact an equilibrium, on the top of other ſtones.

In Nevern pariſh there is another monument, commonly called Lhech-y-drybedh, that is, the Tripod, and ſome name it the Altar-ſtone. It is ſomewhat of an oval form, and about twelve yards in circumference, placed on four ſtones, one of which is only two feet high, and conſequently bears no part of the weight. At the ſouth end, it is about four feet and a half in thickneſs, but grows gradually thinner at the other end. At this end there is a furrow, which might ſerve to carry off any liquid that ſhould run down.

Six

Six miles north-eaſt of Newport is ST. DOGMAEL'S, a village on a promontory, which forms the moſt northern part of this county, and is waſhed on one ſide by St. George's channel, and the other by the mouth of the Teivy. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, ſeated by that river, in a vale encompaſſed with hills, founded by Martin de Turribus, a Norman, who firſt conquered the land about it, called Kames, or Kemiſh. Robert, the ſon of this Martin, endowed it with lands, which were confirmed to the monks by king Henry the Firſt. At the reformation king Henry the Eighth granted it to one Bradſhaw, reſerving a yearly rent to himſelf and his ſucceſſor, and in this family it remained till the year 1640, when it was ſold to David Parry, of Naiodd Trefawr, Eſq; and was lately in the poſſeſſion of Mrs. Anne Parry.

Four miles to the ſouth-eaſt of the above abbey, and a little more than two miles to the ſouth of Cardigan, is KILLGARRING, or KILGARAN, which is ſeated on the north bank of the Teivy, and is governed by a portrieve, and a bailiff. Here are the ruins of a caſtle, ſaid to have been erected by Gilbert Strongbow, earl of Strygyl; but others think its foundation was laid by Roger de Montgomery. This, as well as many other caſtles, has undergone great revolutions, ſuch as being razed, burnt and rebuilt, during inteſtine broils, as well as in the wars with the Engliſh. The ruins, of which we have given an engraved view, ſhew, that it has formerly been a ſtrong place, ſome of the walls being ſtill ſtanding. It is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of the family of the Prices. The town is now reduced into one ſtreet, but it has a handſome church, and a market on Wedneſdays, with two fairs, one held on the 21ſt

of

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of Auguſt; and the other, which is a large fair, on the 12th of November, for cattle, horſes and pedlary.

Here is a ſalmon fiſhery, and alſo a remarkable ſalmon-leap at a cataract in the river. The ſalmon, in its way up the river from the ſea, no ſooner reaches the cataract, than it forms into a curve, by bending its tail to its mouth, and ſometimes, in order to mount with the greater velocity, Camden ſays, holds its tail between its teeth, then ſuddenly diſengaging itſelf, ſprings up the precipice.

This county, among others, has produced the following great men.

Aſſerius Menevenſis, by ſome called Aſſer, a learned monk in the ninth century, was born, as is ſuppoſed, in the county of Pembroke; and educated in the monaſtery of St. David's (in Latin Menevia) whence he derived his ſurname of Menevenſis. He was a diſtinguiſhed favourite of king Alfred the Great, whom he aſſiſted in his ſtudies, and who beſtowed upon him, as a reward of his ſervices, the biſhopric of Sherburn. We are farther told, that it was by his advice that that prince refounded the univerſity of Oxford. The time of his death is uncertain. He wrote the life of king Alfred, and ſome other tracts.

Giraldus Cambrenſis, a voluminous writer in the end of the twelfth, and beginning of the thirteenth centuries, was deſcended of a noble family in South Wales, and born in the caſtle of Mainarpir near Pembroke, about the year 1146. He received his education partly at home, and partly at the univerſity of Paris, where, according to his own account (for he was the very quinteſſence of vanity) he made a moſt ſurprizing progreſs

greſs in his ſtudies. His learning, which, however, for the age he lived in, was really great, and his powerful connections, which were of ſtill more conſequence, procured him ſome conſiderable preferments in the church, and, among others, the archdeaconry of Brechin; but he could never attain to what was the chief object of his ambition, the biſhopric of St. David's; for, tho' he was actually, in 1199, elected to that ſee, and made three ſeveral journies to Rome, in order to ſolicit his confirmation, he could not prevail upon the pope to grant his requeſt, and he was at laſt obliged to deſiſt from his pretenſions. Mortified at a diſappointment, which he ſo little expected, he withdrew from the world, and burying himſelf in obſcurity, employed the greateſt part of his time in compoſing thoſe works, which he afterwards publiſhed. The time of his death is uncertain. He had formerly been rector of the public ſchools at Paris, chaplain to king Henry the Second, and ſecretary to earl John, afterwards king John, while that prince was in Ireland. His works are numerous, and not deſtitute of merit; but the ſtile is ſo extremely quaint, and affected, ſo full of quibbles and gingling concerts; and the author throughout betrays ſuch a degree of vanity, that it is impoſſible to read him without being diſguſted. His principal performances are, *Topographia Heberniae*; *Hiſtoria Valicinalis ele expugnatione Heberniae*; *Itinerarum Cambriae*; *Topographia Cambriae*; *De Rebus a Segeſtis*, *&c.*

Sir John Perrot, an eminent ſtateſman in the ſixteenth century, was deſcended of an honourable family, and born in this county, about the year 1527. Having compleated his education in the houſe of the marquis of Wincheſter, lord high treaſurer of England (for, in imitation of the ancient

ancient Romans, it was then a practice in England, for young gentlemen to be inſtructed in the families of great miniſters) he became a particular favourite of king Henry the Eighth, from whoſe loins he was generally ſuppoſed to be ſprung; he enjoyed the ſame influence under king Edward the Sixth, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood; he was exempted, during the reign of queen Mary, from all perſecution, on account of his religion, which was the proteſtant; and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland. In this poſt he acquitted himſelf with great vigilance and activity; but being naturally a man of a high ſpirit, and of an imperious temper, he was guilty of ſome ſeverities, which laid him open to the intrigues of his enemies, who at laſt effected his ruin; for, in 1592, he was committed priſoner to the tower of London, and being brought to his trial, was convicted of high-treaſon. The queen, however, was ſo fully convinced of his innocence, that ſhe intended to have granted him a pardon; but was prevented from ſhewing this mark of her clemency, by Sir John's natural death, which happened in the tower in the month of September, of the ſame year. He was a man of great bodily ſtrength and agility; and excelled moſt of his contemporaries in feats of arms, and in the practice of chivalry.

End of the Seventh Volume.